



DARK NIGHTS

6



**Scott
Snyder**

**Greg
Capullo**

**Jonathan
Glapion**

**FCO
Plascencia**

RATED **T+** TEEN PLUS DCCOMICS.COM

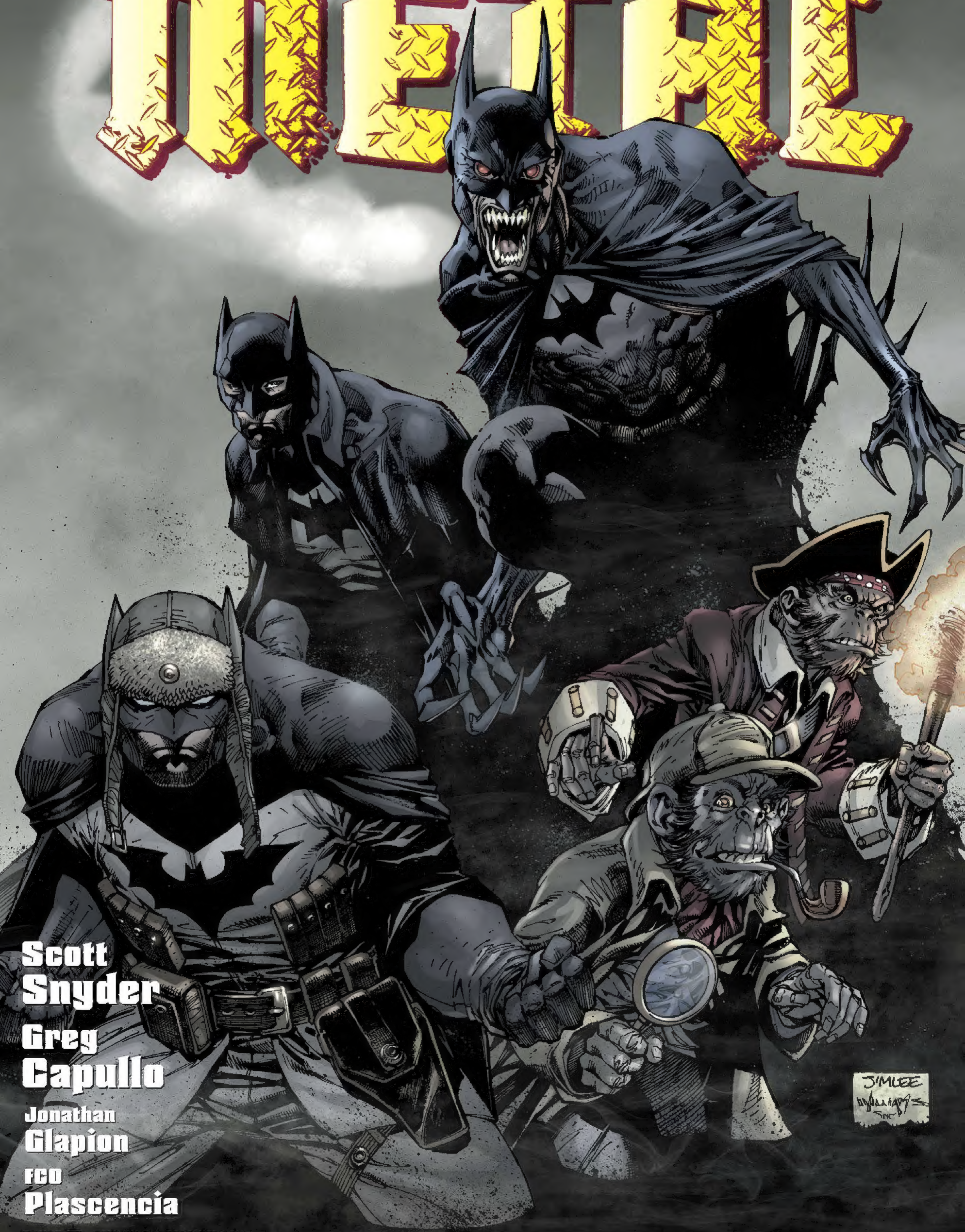
Capullo
17
Glapion



DARK NIGHTS

6

MEET



**Scott
Snyder**
**Greg
Capullo**
Jonathan
Glapion
fco
Plascencia

JIM LEE
BY/DAVID
SINE



DARK NIGHTS

6

MEET



**Scott
Snyder**

**Greg
Capullo**

**Jonathan
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**Edo
Plascencia**

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DARK NIGHTS

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TOM
SANTAL
18
FLORES
TOMAS PABLO



LOOK AT US! HOW FAR WE'VE COME TOGETHER...

MMMF...



THE JOURNEYS TAKEN, THE THINGS SEEN...

MMNMF
=GASP=
PLEASE...
DON'T--



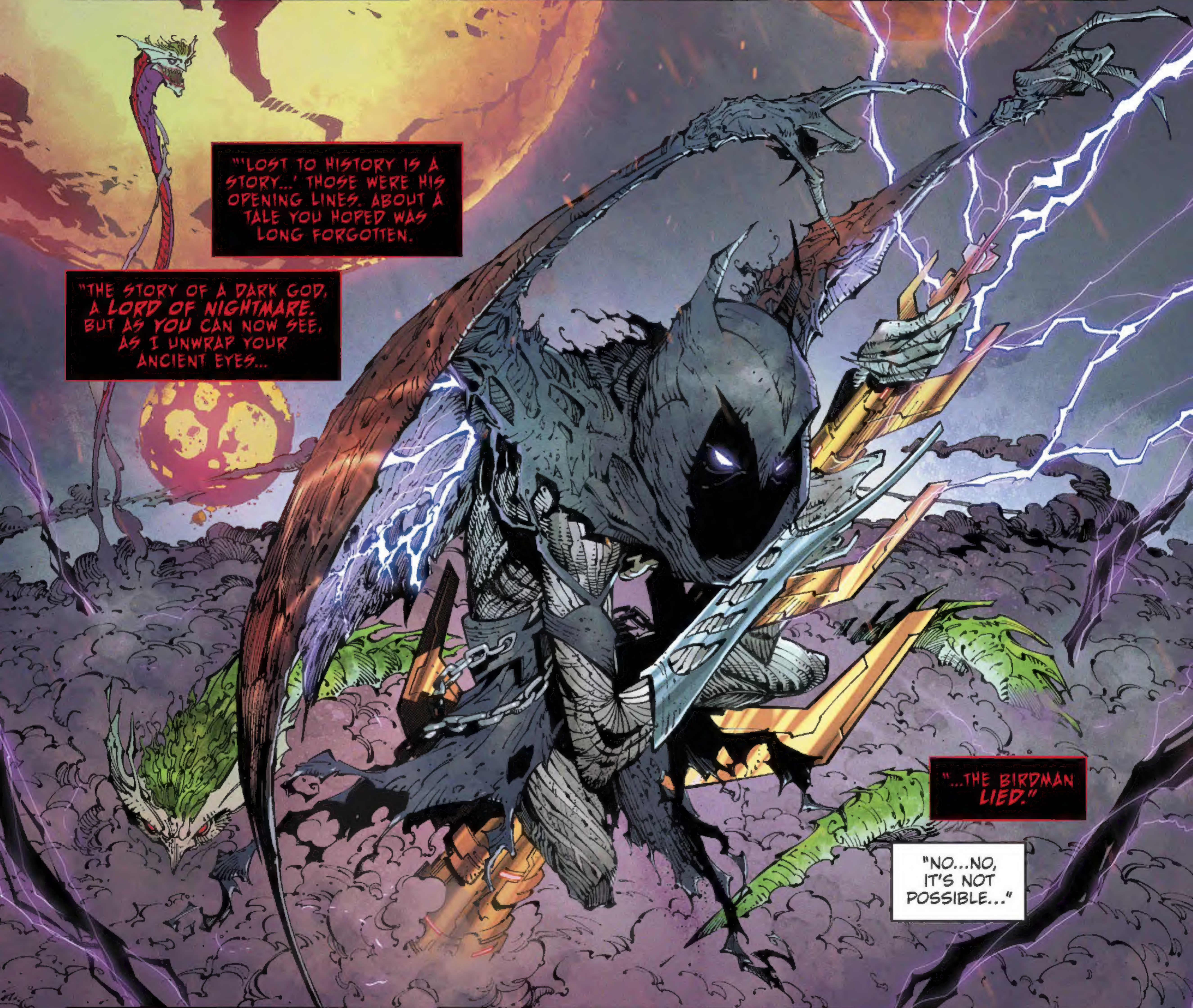
AND TO THINK IT ALL BEGAN WITH WORDS IN THE JOURNAL OF A BIRDMAN.

CROW

CROW

CROW

YOU...
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!



"'LOST TO HISTORY IS A STORY...' THOSE WERE HIS OPENING LINES. ABOUT A TALE YOU HOPED WAS LONG FORGOTTEN.

"THE STORY OF A DARK GOD, A LORD OF NIGHTMARE, BUT AS YOU CAN NOW SEE, AS I UNWRAP YOUR ANCIENT EYES...

"...THE BIRDMAN LIED."

"NO...NO,
IT'S NOT
POSSIBLE..."



"OH, IT'S POSSIBLE. BECAUSE THE TRUTH IS, THE DARKEST STORIES? THE ONES YOU PRAY WILL NEVER HAPPEN?"



"THEY'RE NEVER LOST. THEY'RE ALIVE AND WELL AND JUST WAITING TO COME GET YOU."



"TO DRAG YOU DOWN, ALONE, SCREAMING, BECAUSE IN THE END, ALL ROADS LEAD BACK..."

"...TO DARKNESS."

NOW.
EARTH. IN THE DARK MULTIVERSE.

WONDER WOMAN,
WE'VE BEEN ~~UNH~~
FIGHTING FOR HOURS--
THE DARK ARMY IS
ENDLESS! THEY JUST
KEEP ADVANCING!

~~HUFF HUFF~~
THEN SO DO
WE!

WE WILL TAKE
THIS MOUNTAIN INCH
BY CURSED INCH IF WE
HAVE TO, KENDRA, BUT
WE WILL REACH--
HRAA!

--OUR FRIENDS!
THE BATMAN WHO
LAUGHS SAID THEY'D
FALLEN TO HIS DARK
KNIGHTS--THEY
MUST BE UP
AHEAD!

SO WE FIND
THEM AND THEN
WHAT? YOU KEEP
BANGING YOUR
BRACELETS, HOPING
THEY HEAR YOU,
BUT EVEN IF
THEY DO...

...THE EARTH
HAS SUNKEN
BELOW THE COSMIC
MEMBRANE! WE'RE
IN THE DAMN
DARK!



MAYBE WE SHOULD
LET THEM SLEEP! THINKING
THERE'S ANY WINNING
HERE IS BULL--

GRAARR!

ARGH!

DIANA!
**GET AWAY
FROM HER!**

ACK!



YOU ALL
RIGHT?

⇒HUFF HUFF⇒
WE CAN'T...LEAVE
THEM IN SOME DARK
DREAM...SOME
LIE...

EVEN IF
IT'S...I...
CAN'T LEAVE
THEM.



...
THEN TRY
AGAIN.

WE'RE
⇒UNH⇒ BARELY
CLOSER.

USE THE MACE
THIS TIME. YOUR
BRACELETS ARE **EIGHTH**
METAL. THE MACE
IS **NINTH**.

THE HORDES,
THEY'RE
GROW--



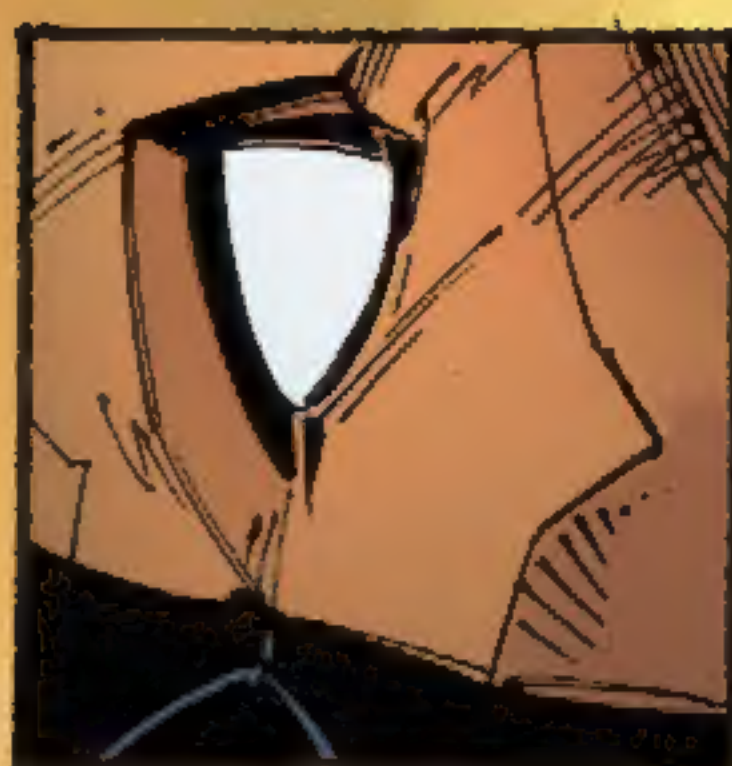
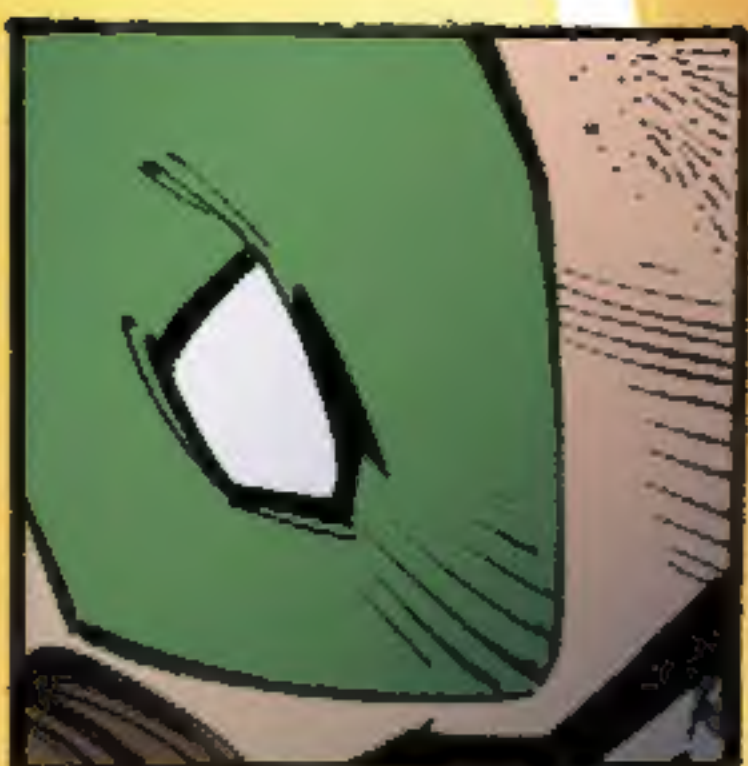
JUST PLAY THE
DAMN NOTE! AND
HARD! METAL
ON METAL...



"...PLAY IT LIKE
AN AMAZON."

LEAGUE!

A close-up, black and white comic book panel showing a character's face. The character has long, dark hair and a wide-eyed, shocked expression, with large pupils and a small, open mouth. The drawing style is detailed with heavy lines and cross-hatching for shading.



HAL! THERE'S NO TIME! I HAVE THE MACE, BUT I CAN'T GET UP THE MOUNTAIN TO YOU!

THERE'RE TOO
MANY AND WE GOT NO
METAL, SCALES.

...EEL...

PLASTIC MAN!
I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR
ME! **NOW** IS THE
TIME! EEL!

I GET THAT
YOU'RE AFRAID YOU'LL
LOSE CONTROL, BUT
YOU CAN DO THIS!
PLEASE!

FORM A
DINOSAUR, A
BULLDOZER, A
DAMN SHARK!
ANYTHING!

OKAY...
DOC HOLT...
HOW...
ABOUT...



...ALLLL OF THE ABOVE!



IS THAT... PLASTIC MAN?!

HE'S CLEARING A PATH!

GREEN LANTERN, AQUAMAN, WE'RE COMING TO YOU WITH THE MACE!

WAIT! THE
MACE AIN'T EN-N-OUGH!
BARBATOS IS TOO
STRONG!

BUT OF THE
S-SIGNALS I GOT
IN THAT OBLIVION PLACE,
THE **LOUDEST** BY A MILE
WAS **FROM THE DARK...**
MAYBE IT'S SOME KIND
OF...S-SOURCE?

I'M T-T-TELLING
YOU SOMETHING'S
DOWN THERE! OR **WAS**.
JUST HURRY! I CAN'T
HOLD THIS MUCH
LONGER-R-R!

DIANA, LOOK!
THE PORTAL
BARBATOS' ARMIES
CAME THROUGH! IT
LEADS STRAIGHT TO
THE DARK!

TAKE THE
MACE, KENDRA!
YOU'VE READ
CARTER'S JOURNAL.
YOU KNOW THE
PATH BEST.

GO INTO
THE DARK?
BUT--

NO! THERE'S
TOO MUCH DARK
METAL IN ME...IT **HAS**
TO BE YOU!

MY PLACE
IS IN **BATTLE**.
I--

CARTER WROTE
THAT THE LORE
SAYS TO FIND YOUR
WAY THROUGH THE
DARK, STAY **TRUE**
OF **HEART**. JUST
FOCUS!

ON
WHAT?!

ON WHAT YOU
ALWAYS DO--YOUR
FRIENDS! I'VE MET A
LOT OF PEOPLE OVER
THOUSANDS OF LIVES,
BUT YOU...YOU MAKE
PEOPLE SEE
THE **TRUTH!**

THAT THEY
ARE **LOVED**.
AND **WORTH** IT.
YOU DID IT
FOR ME.

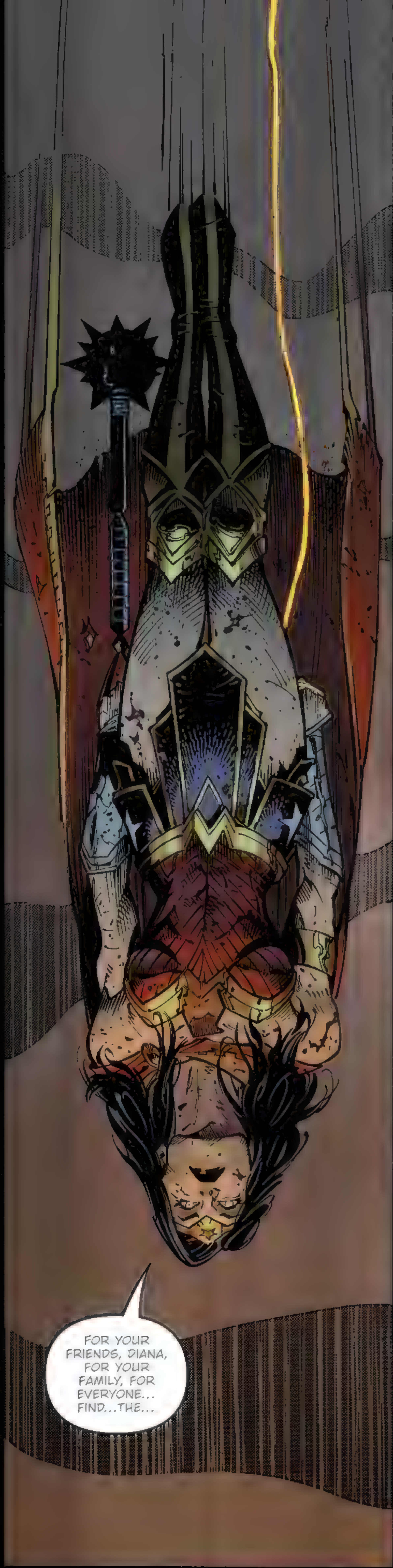
FROM THE
BEGINNING,
BARBATOS HAS
SEPARATED
US, MADE US
FEEL **ALONE**,
HOPELESS.

BUT YOU CALL
THE FORMATIONS.
YOU NEVER GAVE
UP ON SUPERMAN,
BATMAN, CARTER...
OR ME. YOU
BIND US.

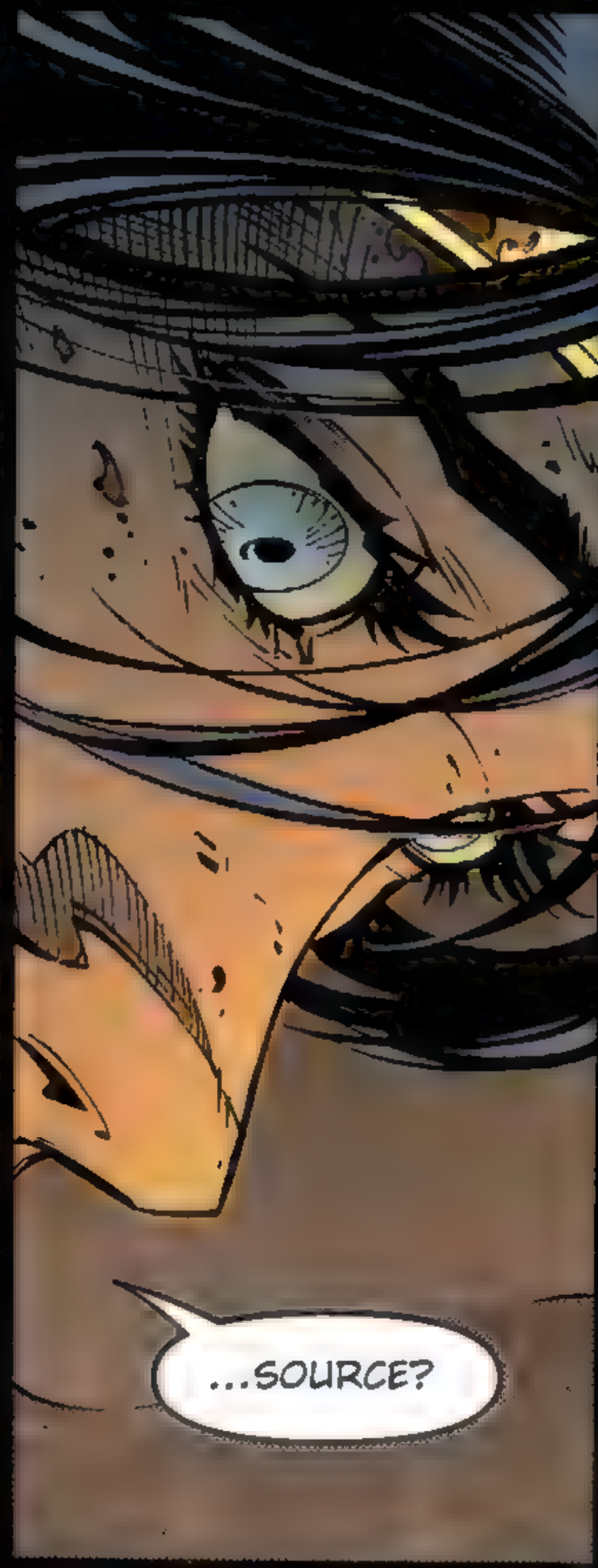
SO, GO DOWN
THERE AND FIND OUR
FRIENDS! GET WHAT WE
NEED AND **TOGETHER**
WE'LL SEND THAT
BASTARD BACK
TO THE DARK!

I WON'T
LET GO! I'LL
NEVER LET GO
AGAIN!

I KNOW
YOU WON'T,
SISTER.



FOR YOUR FRIENDS, DIANA, FOR YOUR FAMILY, FOR EVERYONE... FIND...THE...



...SOURCE?

KENDRA, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

I THINK I FOUND IT, BUT ALL I SEE IS DARKNESS.

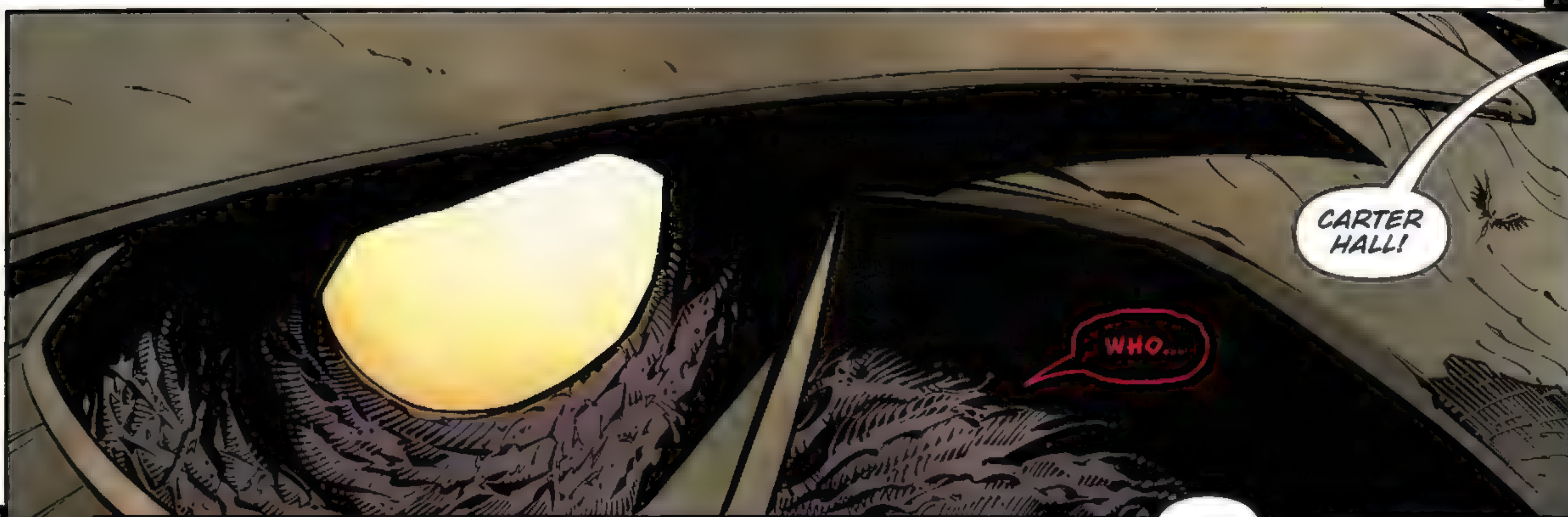
THE FORGE IS DARK, NOW AND FOREVER.

THE METAL OF POSSIBILITY IS COLD AND YOUR FRIENDS HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO ITS DEPTHS. AS YOU WILL BE! HAIL BARBATOS!

WHAT ARE Y--

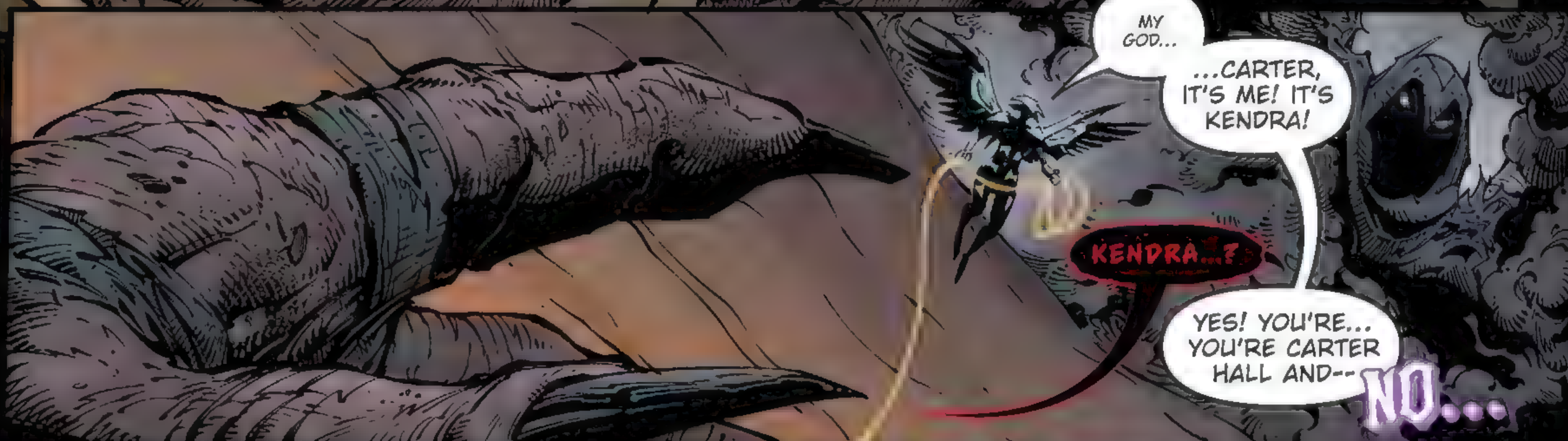
I AM THE DRAGON OF THE FORGE AND NOW YOU SHALL BE--

CARTER?!



CARTER HALL!

WHO...



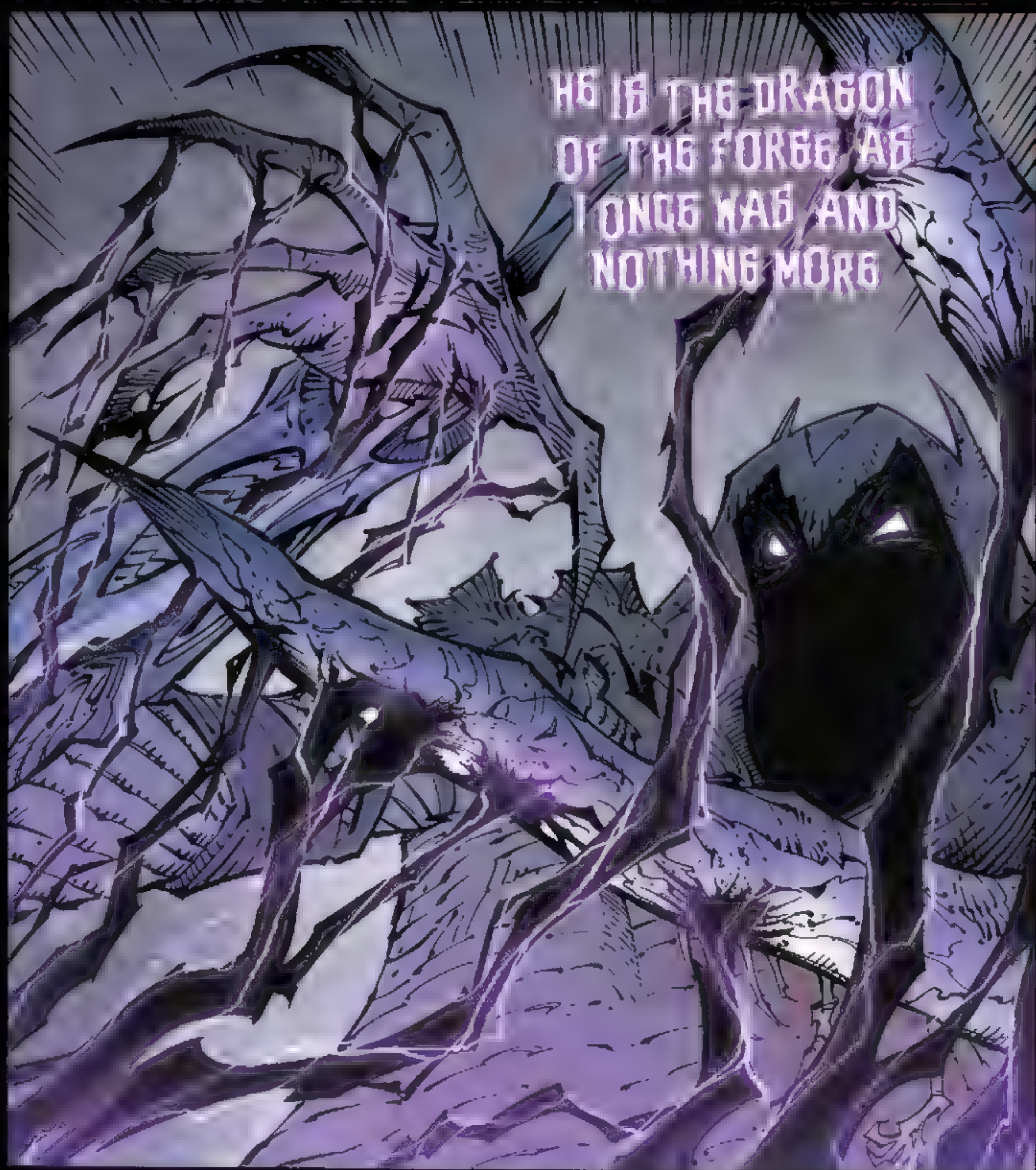
MY GOD...

...CARTER, IT'S ME! IT'S KENDRA!

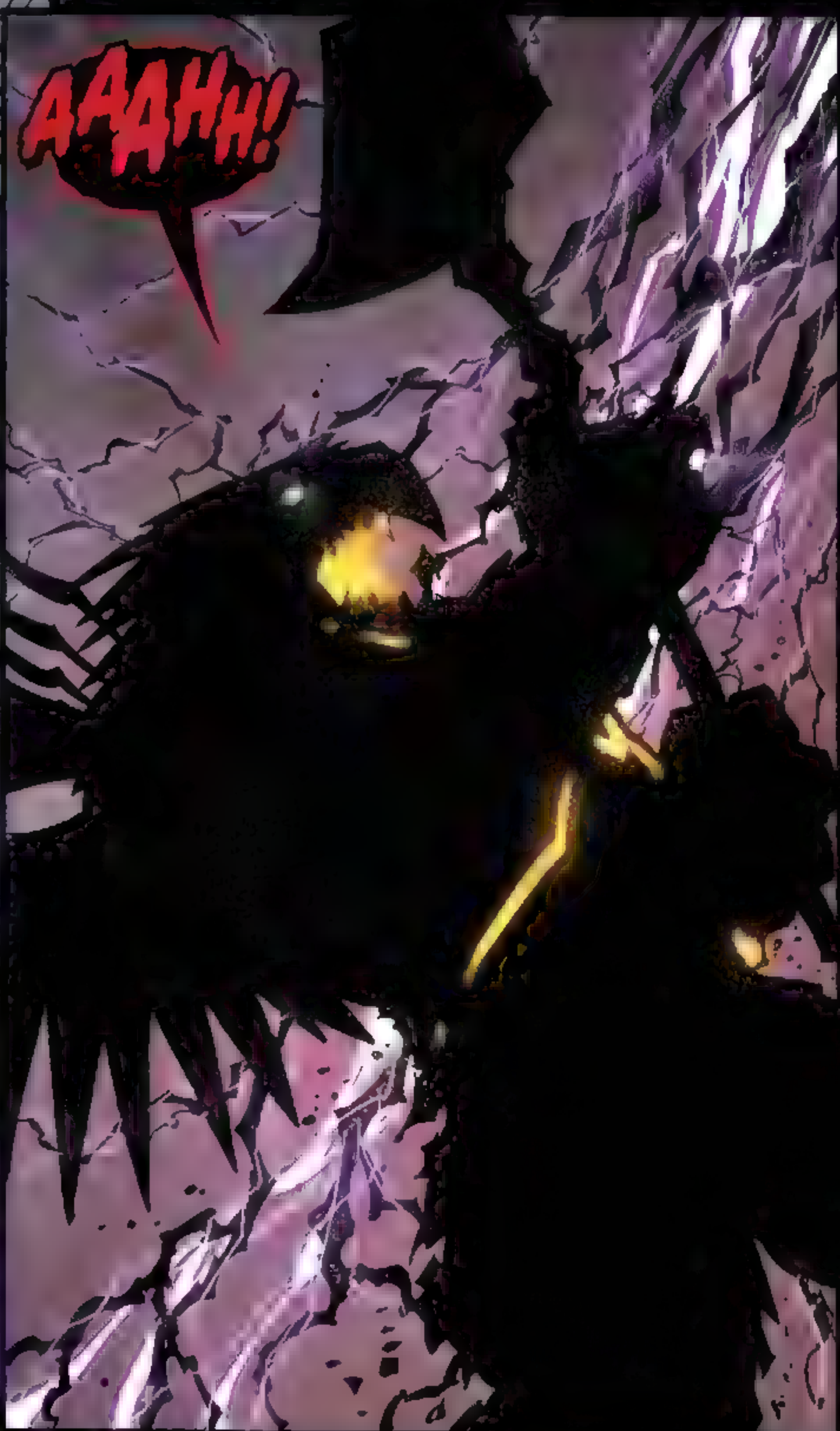
KENDRA...?

YES! YOU'RE... YOU'RE CARTER HALL AND--

NO....



HE IS THE DRAGON OF THE FORGE AS LONG AS WAS AND NOTHING MORE



AAAAHHH!

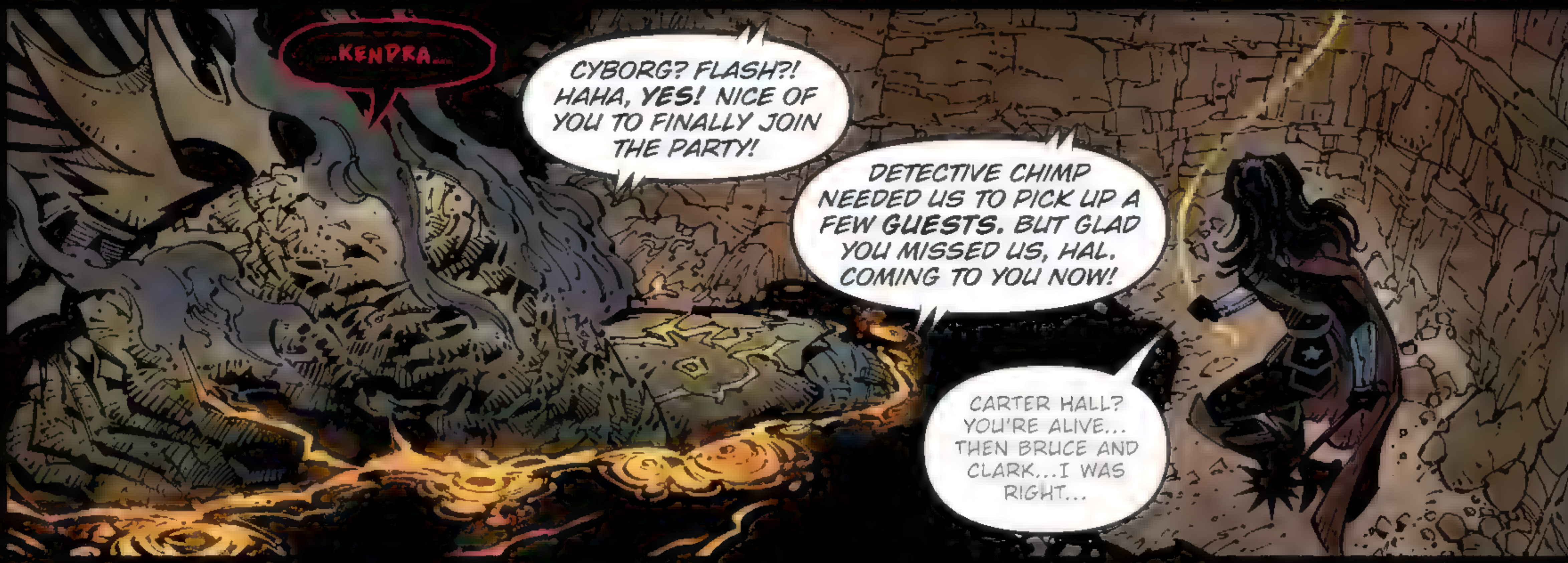
ENOUGH MY DARK KNIGHTS HAVE CONQUERED YOUR WORLD THEY HAVE WAGED WAR ACROSS THE MULTIVERSE AND--

WELL, WE'VE BEEN ACROSS THE MULTIVERSE, TOO. AND WE SEE YOUR EVIL BATMEN...



...AND WE
RAISE.

GREETINGS
FROM THE FIFTY-
THIRD EARTH,
@#&%!



KENDRA

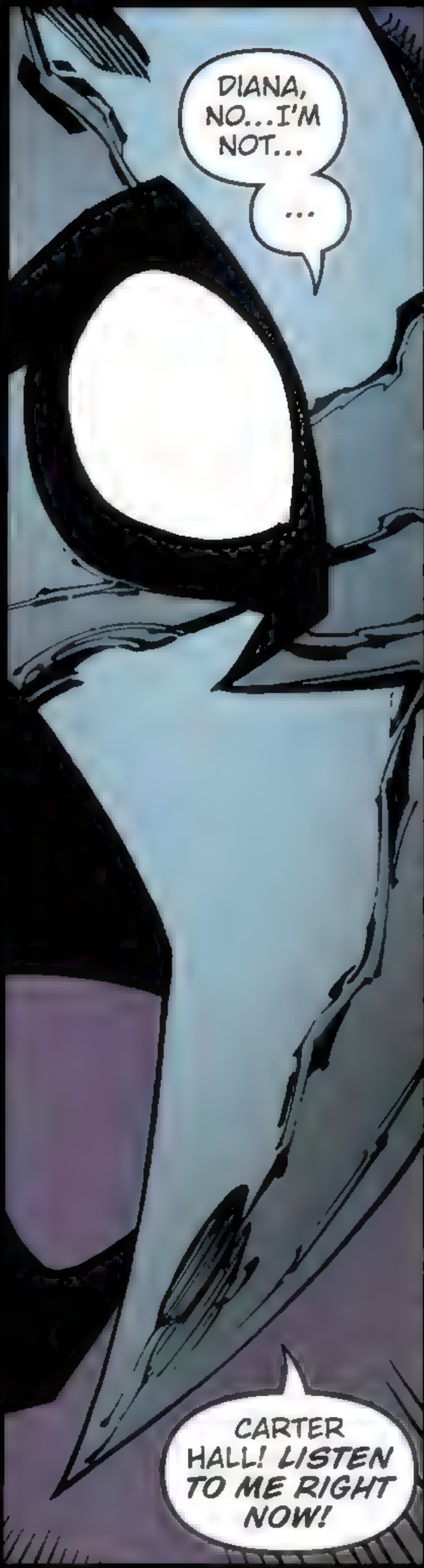
CYBORG? FLASH?!
HAHA, YES! NICE OF
YOU TO FINALLY JOIN
THE PARTY!

DETECTIVE CHIMP
NEEDED US TO PICK UP A
FEW GUESTS. BUT GLAD
YOU MISSED US, HAL.
COMING TO YOU NOW!

CARTER HALL?
YOU'RE ALIVE...
THEN BRUCE AND
CLARK...I WAS
RIGHT...



KENDRA!
I KNOW WHAT I
NEED TO DO! HOLD
TIGHT TO THE LASSO
AND MAKE HIM SEE
THE TRUTH, AS I
DID FOR YOU!



DIANA,
NO...I'M
NOT...
...

CARTER
HALL! LISTEN
TO ME RIGHT
NOW!



I AM KENDRA
SAUNDERS, AND
YOU ARE CARTER
HALL, PROUD
LEADERS OF THE
TRIBE OF THE
BIRD!

WE HAVE LIVED
FOR THOUSANDS
OF YEARS, THROUGH
ALL OF HUMANITY,
AND THIS IS NOT
HOW OUR STORY
ENDS!

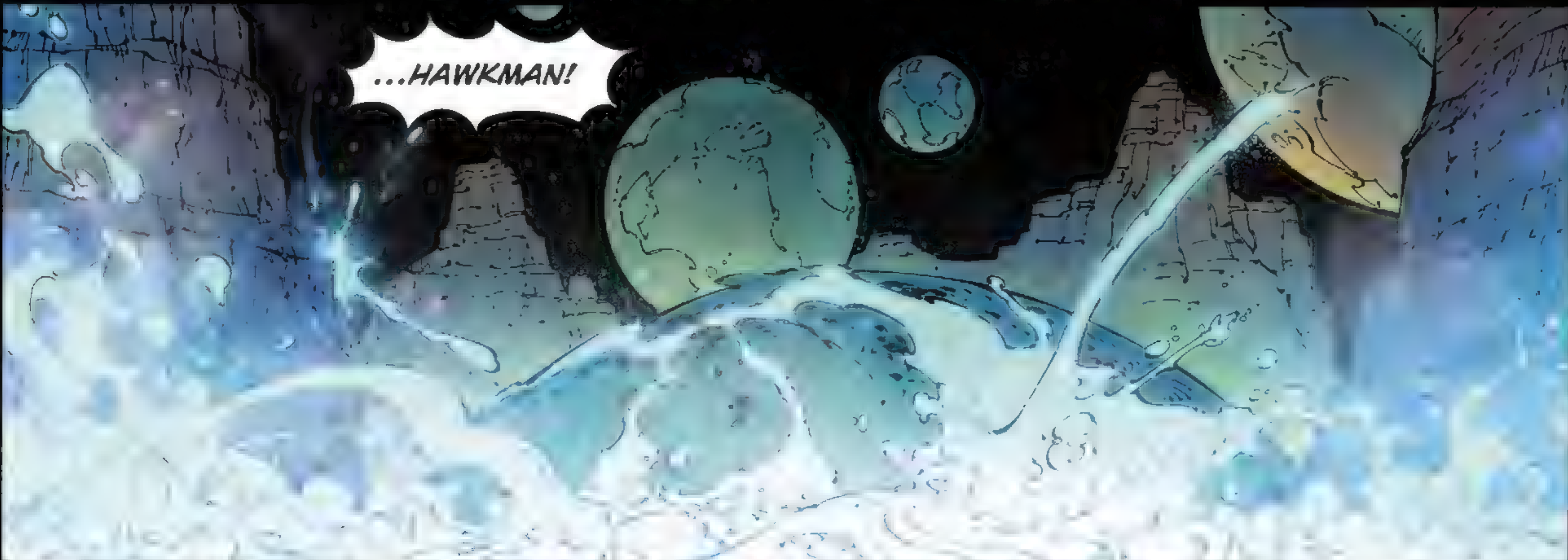
THEY HAVE
STOLEN IT,
BUT TAKE IT
BACK!



TAKE BACK
OUR STORY!
YOU--

AAARGH!

YOU -LUNH-
ARE...



...HAWKMAN!



SO LET IT
LIGHT! LET
THEM HOPE!

WE ARE IN MY REALM
WHERE ALL ENDS IN
DARKNESS! I WILL
CREATE WORLDS TO
TORTURE THEM FOR
ETERNITY!



WHO IS TRULY FOOLISH
ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THEY
CAN WIN DOWN HERE IN
THE DARKNESS?

I CAN
ANSWER
THAT...

...WE
ARE.

My name is
Carter Hall.

And lost to
history was a
story...

...a story of evil,
of darkness...but
also, of heroes.



And this book shall be my record of it.

From the journals of Carter Hall.



LEAGUE!
I HAVE
SUPERMAN
AND
BATMAN!

CLARK?!
BRUCE...THANK
GOD!

FLASH?
EVERYONE
OKAY?



WELL, THE MULTIVERSE
IS FALLING APART, BUT CYBORG
AND I FOUND SOME CAVALRY AT
THE HOUSE OF HEROES. WHAT
THE HECK ARE YOU GUYS
WEARING?

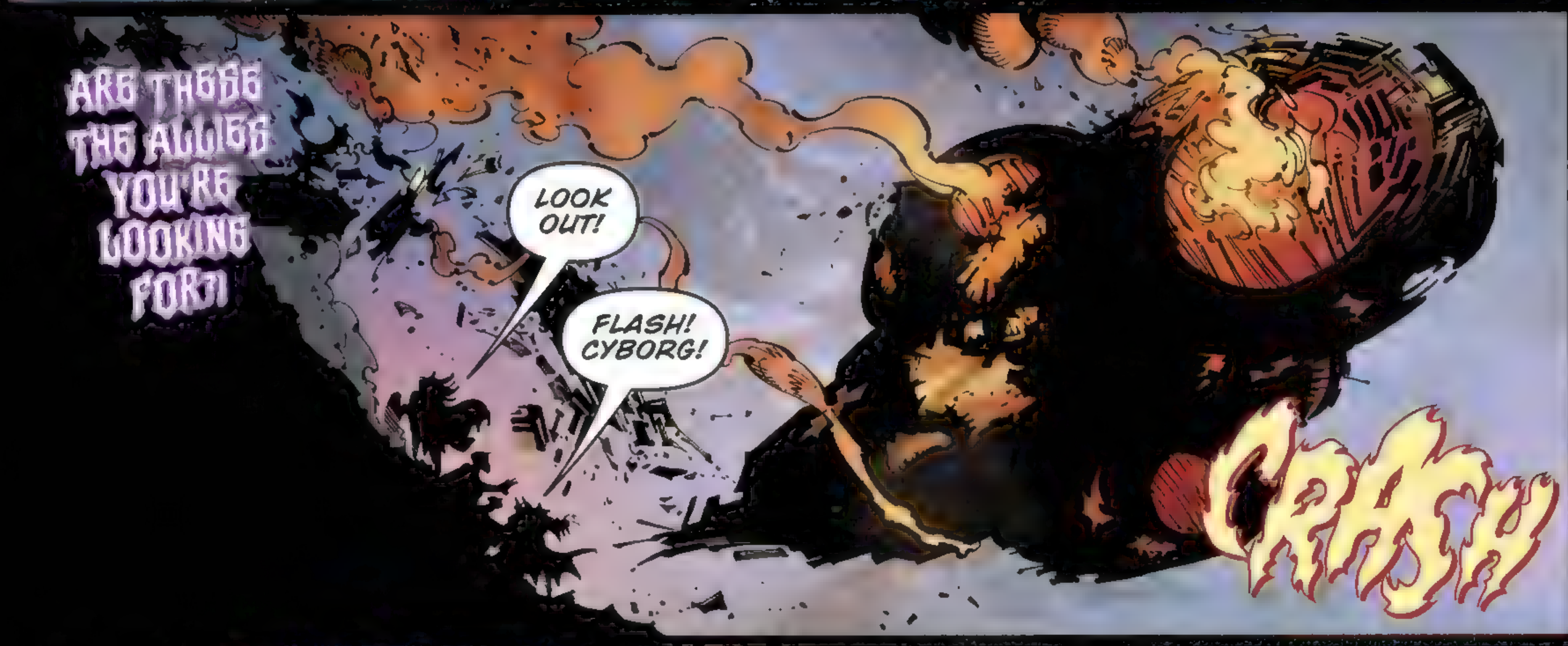
IT'S TENTH METAL
FROM THE FORGE
OF WORLDS.

...YEAH,
YOU WIN.



I HAVE ONE
DROP LEFT. IF WE
COMBINE IT WITH CYBORG'S
MULTIVERSAL CHARGE, IT
COULD RAISE
THE EARTH.

CY, BANK THE
THULE AROUND.
SOUTH FACE
AND--



ARE THESE
THE ALLIES
YOU'RE
LOOKING
FOR?

LOOK
OUT!

FLASH!
CYBORG!

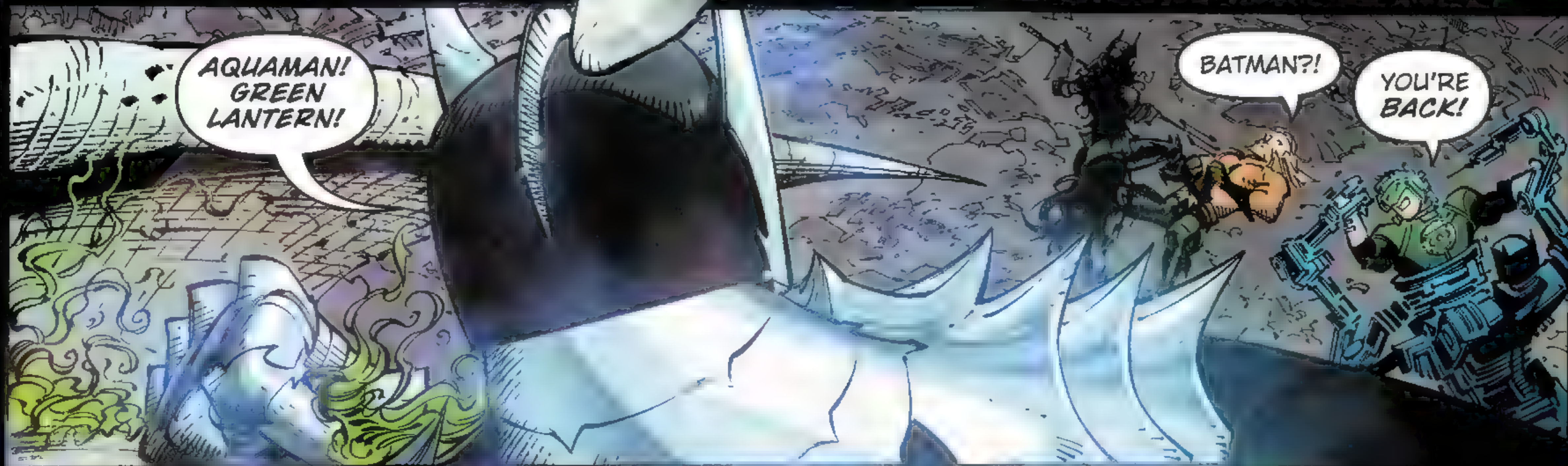


UNH...
DAMMIT! WE'RE
OKAY, BUT TRAPPED...
RAVEN'S HURT...
CAN'T TELEPORT
US OUT.

BUT I
SPOTTED THE
COSMIC TUNING
FORK, BATMAN!
BARBATOS HAS IT AT
THE SUMMIT. USE
THAT TO CHANNEL
THE TENTH METAL.
JUST KEEP
PUSHING!



YOU WILL GO NO
HIGHER! ALL MY DARK
ARMIES... THESE
THREE DESTROY
THEM!



They say the *eightth* metal is the stuff of gods. The *ninth* uses dark energy to give its carrier powers that defy physics.

But the *tenth*...

...also called *Element X*, is metal of the so-called Forge itself.

The metal of pure possibility.

They say whoever wields it...
"let his first words be recorded forever in the halls of kings."

THIS MIGHT STING.

For his metal can take the shape of whatever is needed.

Arm whoever the bearer wishes...

...so they might cut through
the dark and bring their
will to life.

MY GOD...
THE MOUNTAIN
IS STILL COVERED
WITH PEOPLE! WE
NEED TO HELP
THEM!

ANY HEROES
WHO CAN HEAR
ME! THIS IS THE
**JUSTICE
LEAGUE.**

MAKE
YOUR WAY TO
CHALLENGERS
MOUNTAIN...

...IT'S TIME
TO **SAVE THE
WORLD.**

HEE-YAH!



And what of the dark-
horned god? What have
I learned of Barbatos
in my travels?

That he watches
with hatred.
Always...





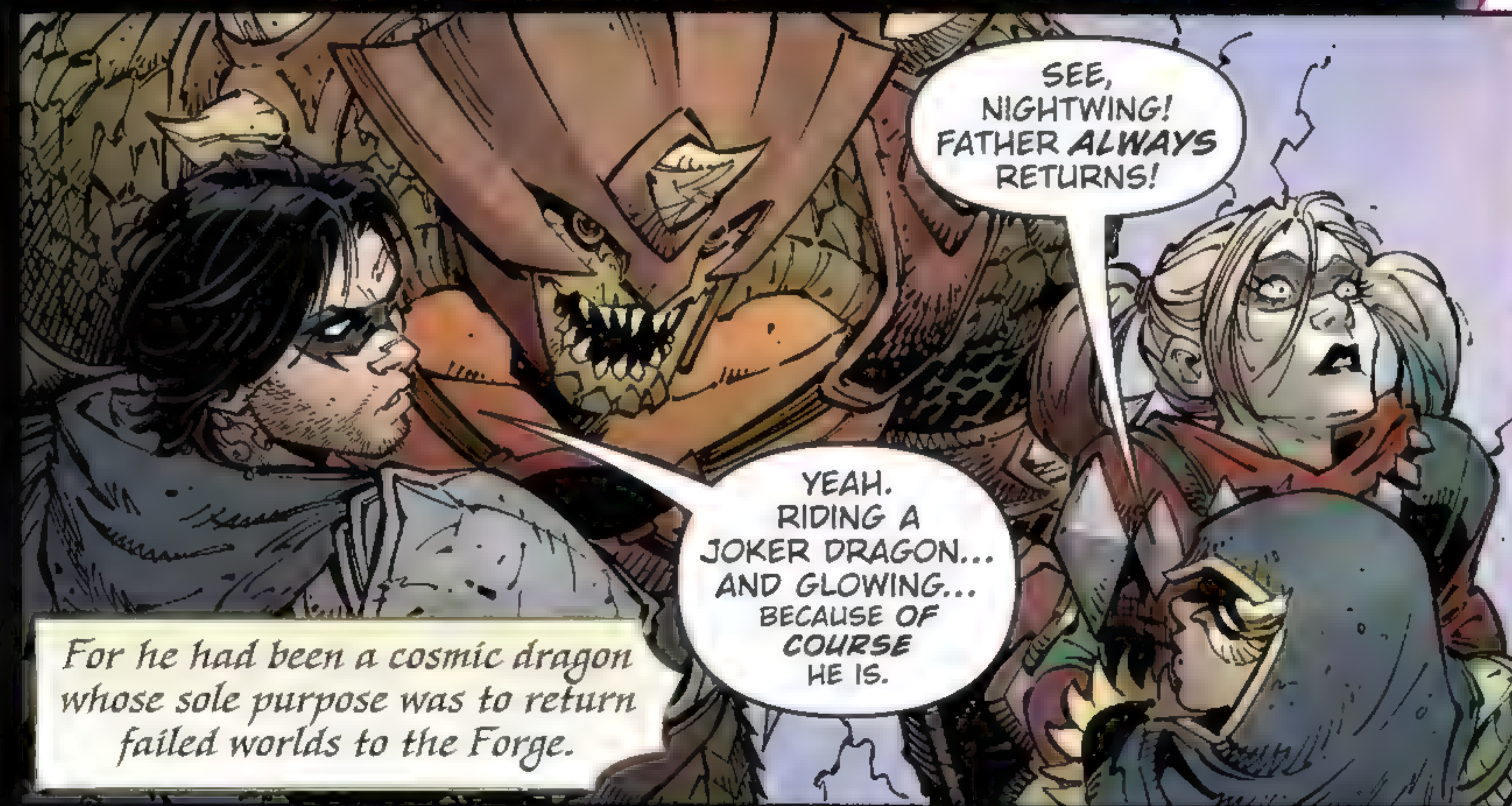
COME! FREE YOURSELVES!

He watched us from the dark during that first war of birds and bats...



...watched as the tribes gathered their armies against those trying to raise him.

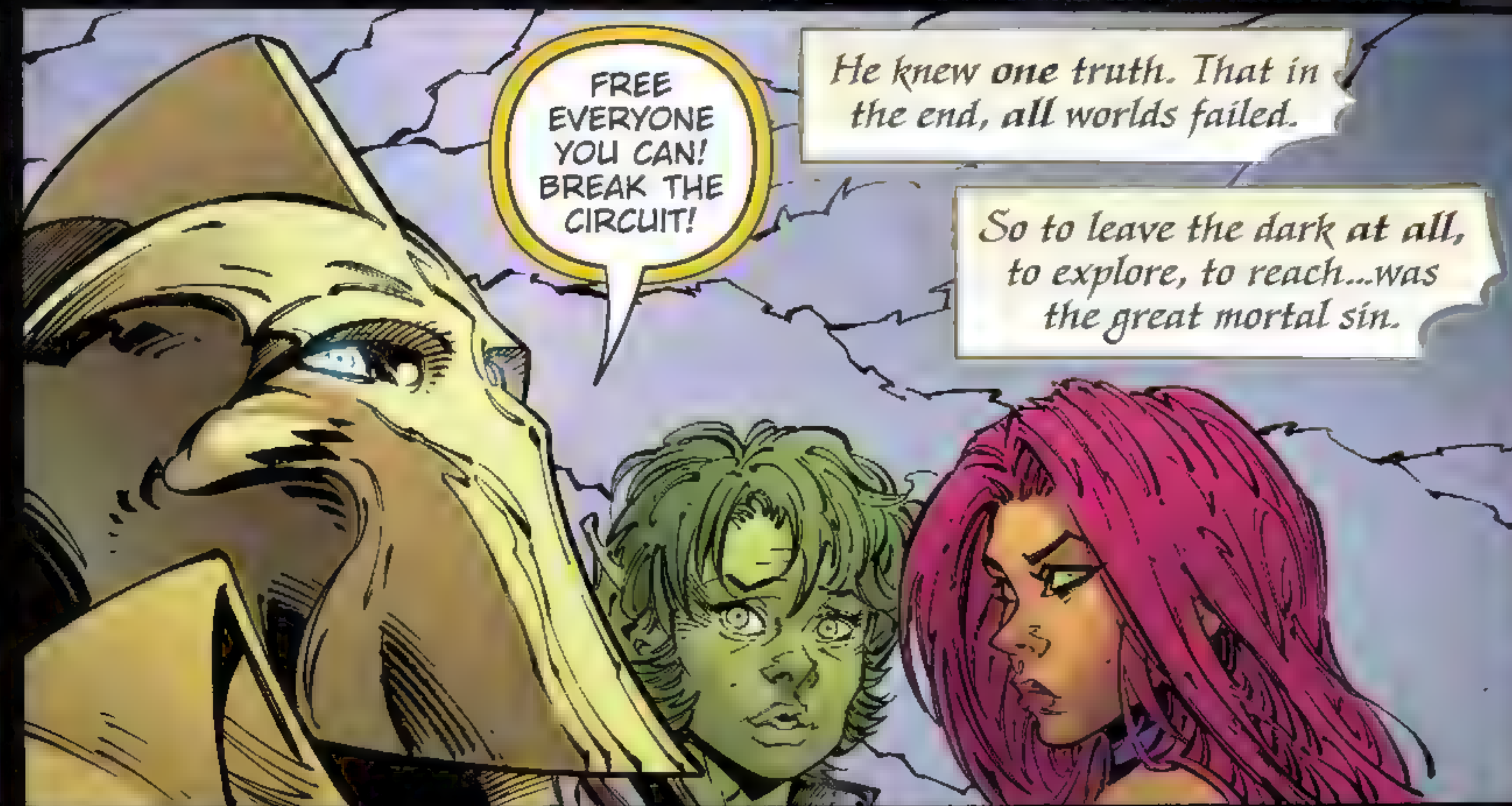
YOU'RE WITH FRIENDS, JOHN. I GOT YOU...



SEE, NIGHTWING! FATHER ALWAYS RETURNS!

YEAH. RIDING A JOKER DRAGON... AND GLOWING... BECAUSE OF COURSE HE IS.

For he had been a cosmic dragon whose sole purpose was to return failed worlds to the Forge.



FREE EVERYONE YOU CAN! BREAK THE CIRCUIT!

He knew one truth. That in the end, all worlds failed.

So to leave the dark at all, to explore, to reach...was the great mortal sin.



SKREEEEEEEE

His cry is the wail of billions of failed worlds. I can feel him even now, watching us with hatred and without fear.

For he knows that should he ever be set free, and the dark structures align...

...all he has to do to lower the Earth into darkness ...is open his mouth... and scream.

Release the
anti-music of
his shriek...

...and sink the
Earth so low it
can never be
raised again.

EEEE

NO...

NO!

TRAITOR!

HEAR ME, MY
FAVORITE
KNIGHT...

...ENACT THE FINAL PLAN!



YES, MY LORD.

HEAR THAT? I HOPE SO, BECAUSE THE FINAL PLAN BEGINS WITH YOU...THE ORIGINAL BEING, THE COSMIC SEER.



THE OVER-MONITOR.

WHY... WHY DID YOU DO THIS?



I KNOW IT'S A LOT FOR YOU. AFTER ALL, YOU'VE ONLY JUST STARTED TO RE-FORM AFTER THE LAST MULTIVERSAL CRISIS.

WAIT... THAT BRAIN... DON'T DO THIS. YOU'LL--

DESTROY EVERYTHING THAT'S THE IDEA. WITH POSITIVE ENERGY (YOU), NEGATIVE ENERGY (THE ANTI-MONITOR'S ASTRAL BRAIN) AND DARK ENERGY (ME), WE'LL BLOW APART THE REALM ABOVE!



THERE WILL BE NO MORE MATTER, OR ANTI-MATTER, NO MORE MULTIVERSE--ONLY DARKNE--

HEY, YOU.



YOU CALL THIS A BATCAVE?

YOUR ARMOR DOESN'T WORK DOWN HERE, BRUCE. THE ENERGY CANCELS IT OUT. IT'S JUST YOU AND ME.

ALL RIGHT, MY SONS KILL!

CROW CROW CROW

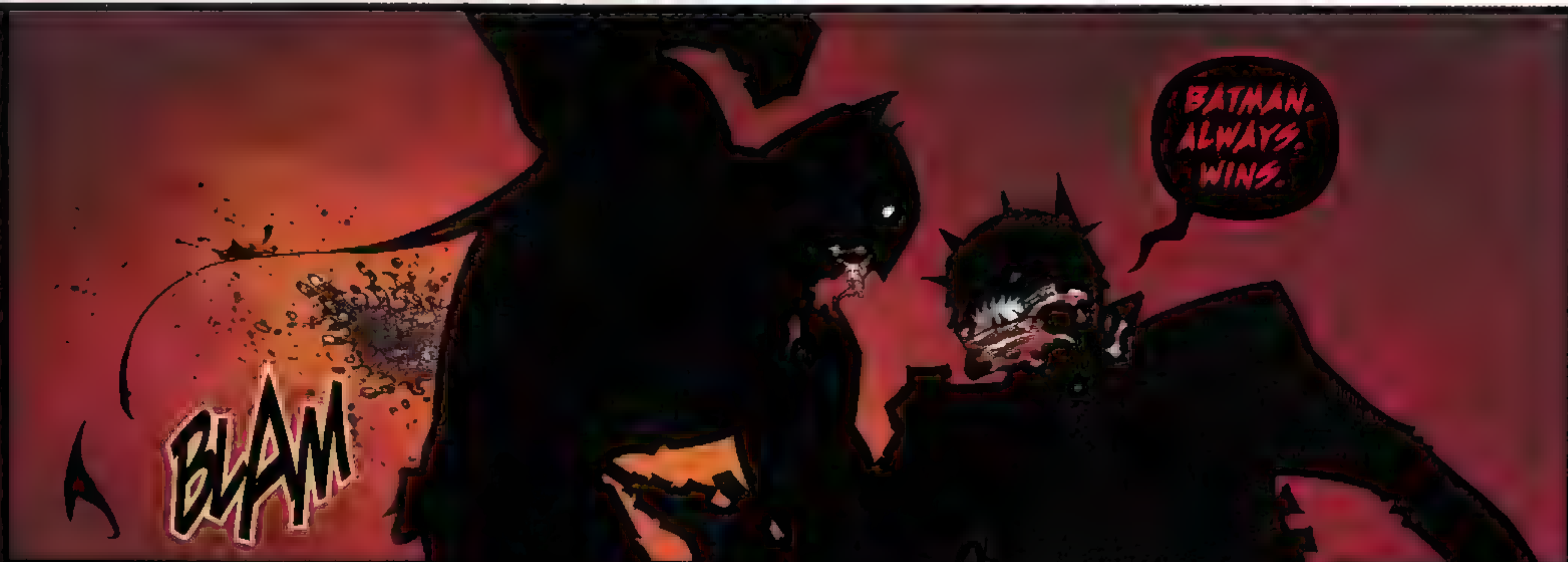
CROW CROW CROW

CROW CROW CRO--

PROMISE?



NO.



THE GUN
THAT KILLED OUR
PARENTS. I TAKE IT
EVERYWHERE AS A
REMINDER.

THEY DIED
BECAUSE THEY
LIVED BY ETHICAL
CODES. THAT WAS
THE LESSON IN
THE ALLEY.

THE LESSON IT'S
TIME TO LEARN. I'VE
SEEN HUNDREDS OF
WORLDS, BRUCE. ON
EVERY ONE, WE GO
DOWN FOR THE
SAME REASON.

BECAUSE YOU
RESTRAIN YOURSELF
BY BELIEVING IN
OTHERS. BECAUSE
YOU HOLD BACK.
IT'S WHAT LED TO
THIS... LED YOU
HERE.

BUT BATMAN
SHOULD BE THE
PERFECT SURVIVOR.
THE APEX
PREDATOR. THAT'S
HIS FINAL
FORM.

YOU'RE THE
SETUP. I'M THE
PUNCHLINE.
GET IT NOW?

CLICK

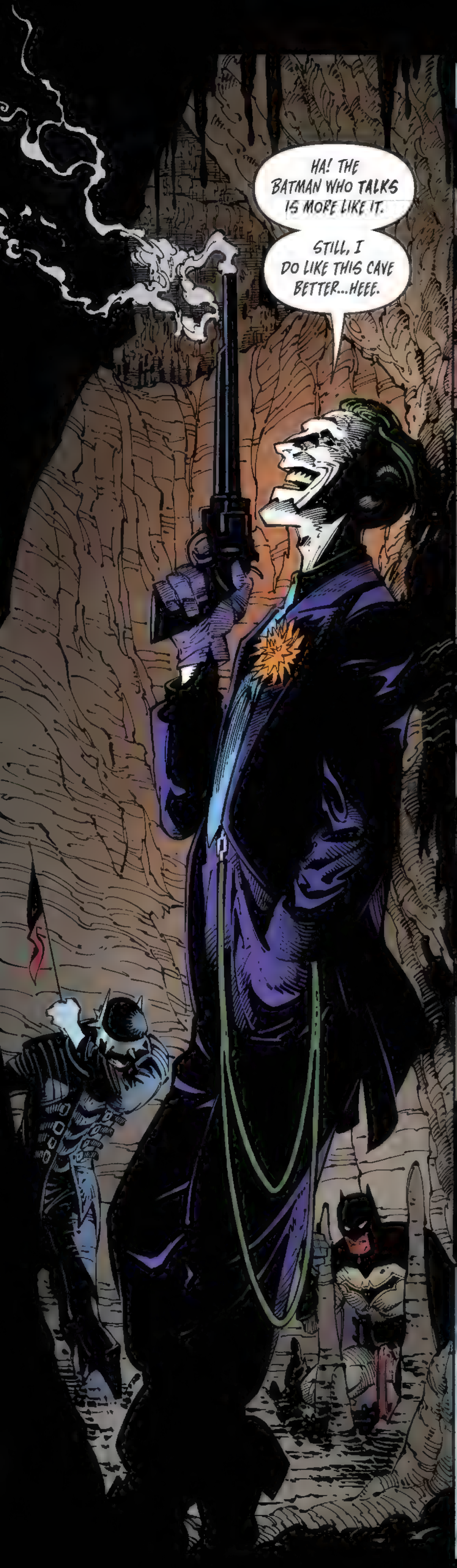
...
JUST FIRE
THE DAMN
GUN.

I'M GLAD
YOU FINALLY
SEE.

B
L
A
M

BAG!

YEAH,
I WASN'T
TALKING
TO YOU.



HA! THE
BATMAN WHO TALKS
IS MORE LIKE IT.

STILL, I
DO LIKE THIS CAVE
BETTER...HEEE.



WELL, WELL,
I WONDERED
IF YOU'D
SHOW UP.

WAS IT
THE DRAGONSE
SOME SECRET
SIGNAL?



OR WAS
KILLING TWO
BATMEN TOO MUCH
TO RESIST?



A
GOOD OLD-
FASHIONED
THREE-WAY
FIGHT.

HEH. NOT
EXACTLY.

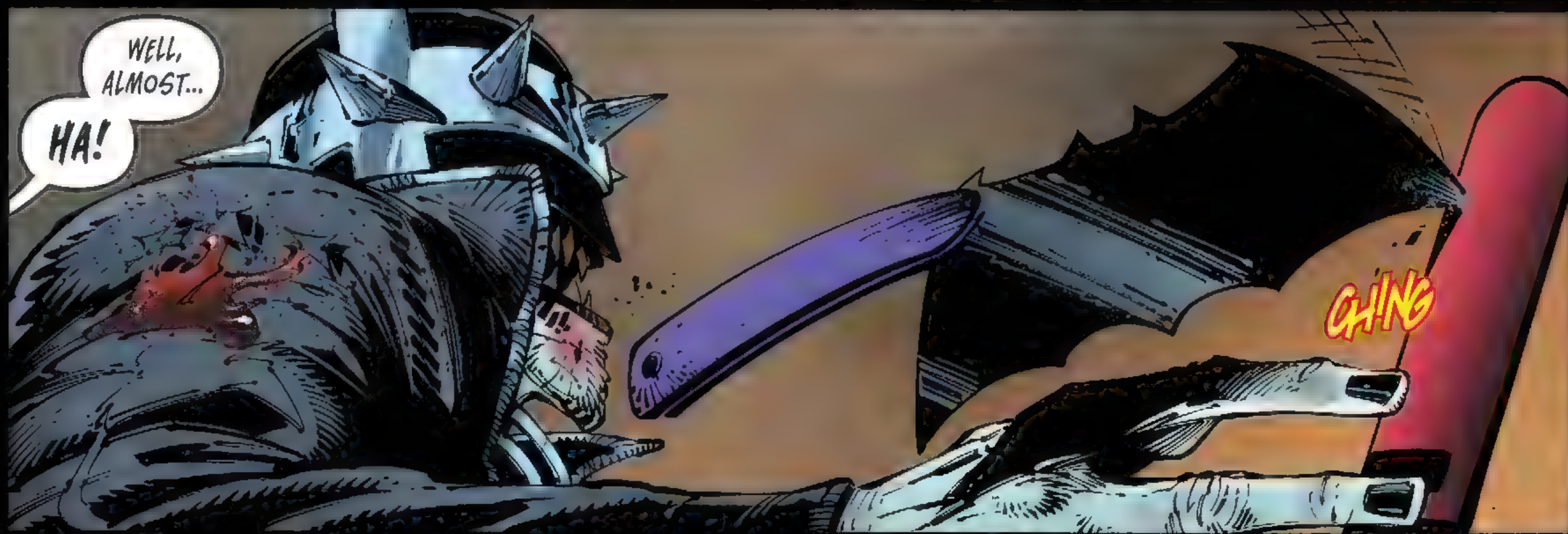
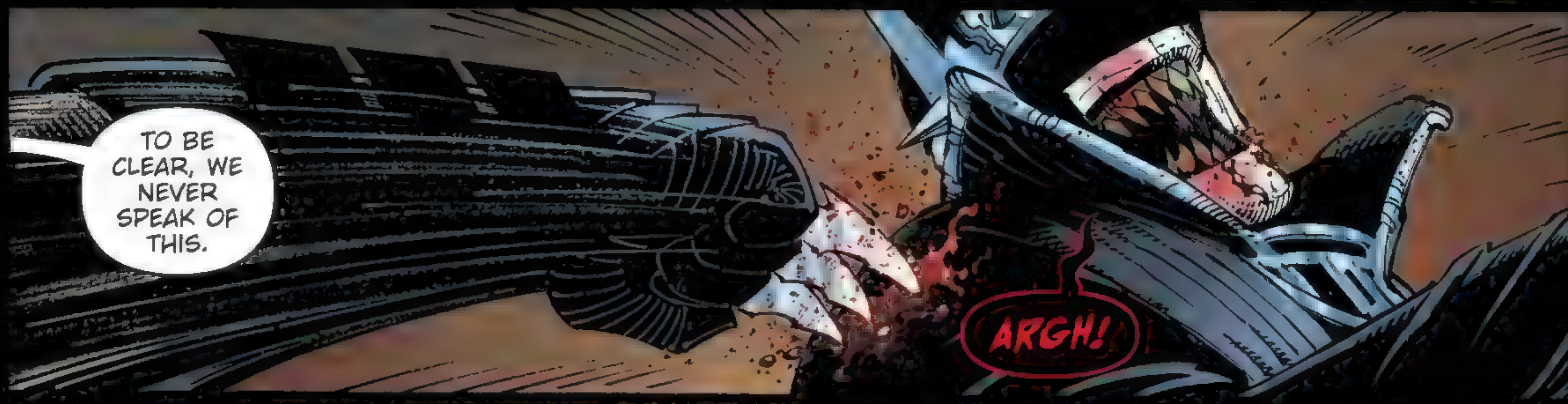
SO, PARTNERS,
BATSSSS?

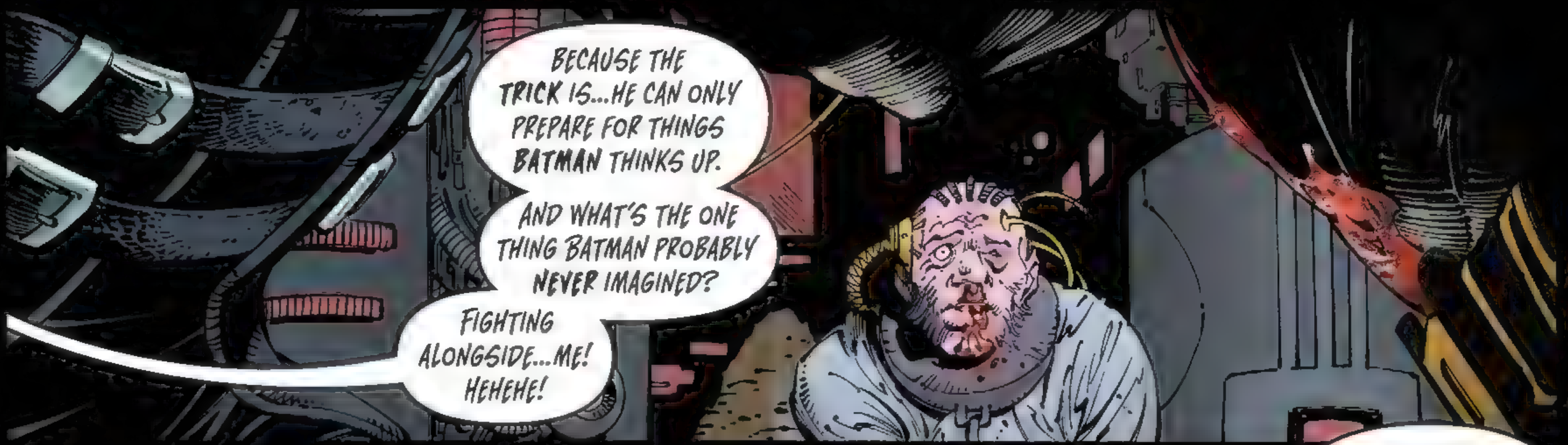


I'M
GOING FOR
THE LEG.



I CALL HIS
FACE.





BECAUSE THE TRICK IS...HE CAN ONLY PREPARE FOR THINGS BATMAN THINKS UP.

AND WHAT'S THE ONE THING BATMAN PROBABLY NEVER IMAGINED?

FIGHTING ALONGSIDE...ME!
HEHEHE!



SO THE JOKE IS...
FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE
YOUR "TRANSFORMATION,"
I'M GUESSING YOU DON'T
ACTUALLY KNOW WHAT'S
COMING NEXT.



DO
YOUUUUUU?



HEH



HAHAHA



"...HAHAHAHA!"

WE'RE ALMOST AT THE TOP! KEEP PUSHING!

WHAT DO YOU THINK WE'VE BEEN DOING, DIPSTICK?



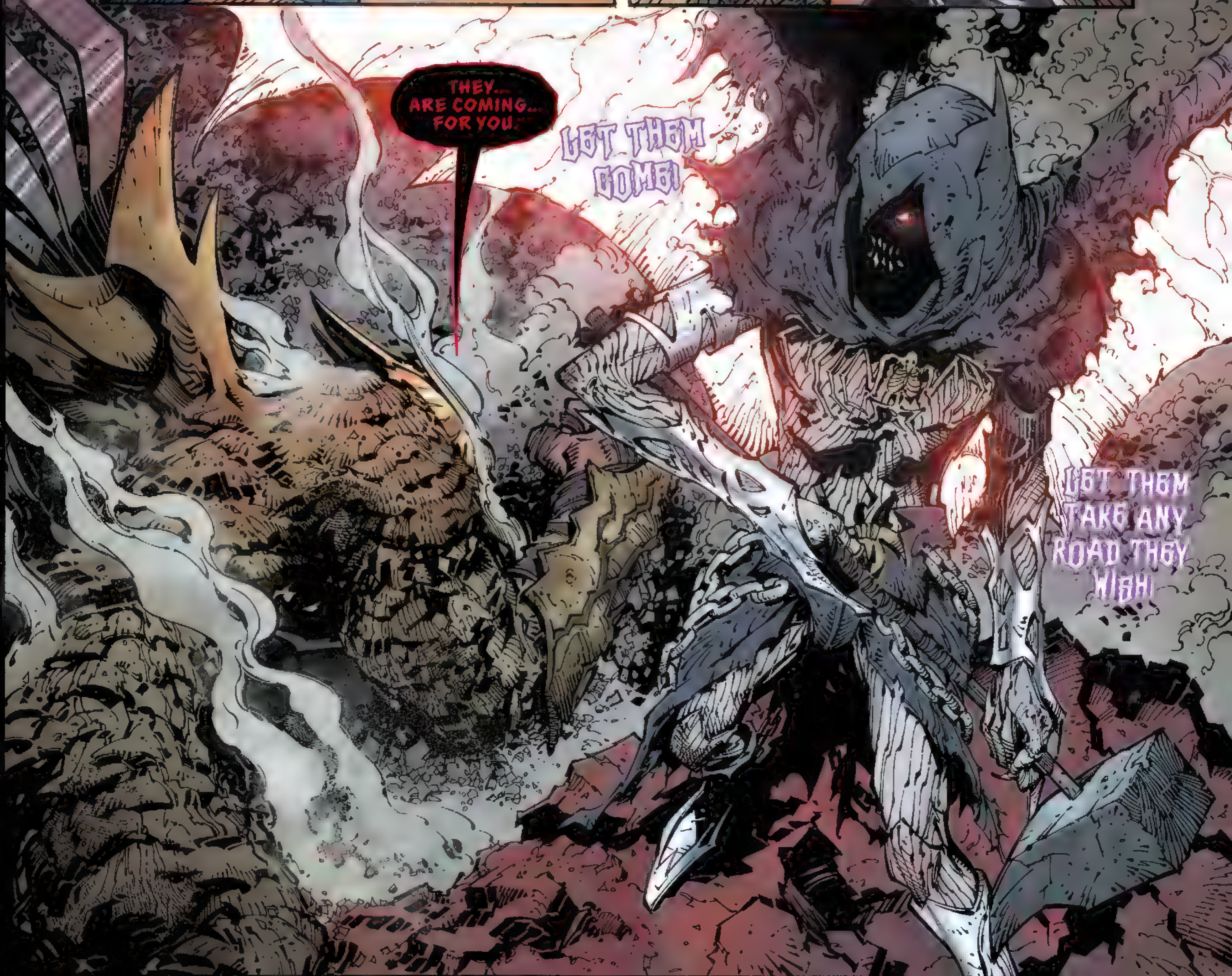
THE METAL...THIS CAN'T BE...WE WERE PROMISED OUR WORLDS BACK...OUR HOMES...

I'M SORRY, BRUCE.



ARTHU--

IT'S OVER, BRYCE.



THEY... ARE COMING... FOR YOU.

LET THEM COME!

LET THEM TAKE ANY ROAD THEY WISH!



THEY WILL
FIND THE ANTENNA
SMASHED AND YOU
DEAD FOR IN
THE END...



CARTER!

KENDRA,
CATCH! GO!



ALL ROADS
LEAD BACK...TO
DARKN—



NOOOOOO!

RUMBLE
RUMBLE



HOLD
ON.

THIS PLACE
IS COLLAPSING,
BATMAN!



THAT WAS...
SATISFYING. BUT
HE WON'T STAY
DOWN LONG.

THE
ANTENNA WAS
OUR **LAST**
OPTION.

CYBORG, CAN
YOU HEAR US?
ARE YOU OUT OF
THE THULE?

YEAH, BUT
THE DARK ENERGY
ON THE MOUNTAIN IS OFF
THE SCALES! EVEN FLASH
AND DOCTOR FATE CAN'T
GET ME UP TO YOU.

I CAN TRY,
VIC! IF IT'S OUR
LAST HOPE, I'D
RATHER DIE
RUNNING!

NO...IT
MAY NOT
BE!



MONITOR?!
HOW--WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?!

YOUR
ARMOR, IT'S MADE
OF THE METAL
THAT FORGES
EVERYTHING.

IT'S IN
EVERY BIT
OF MATTER,
EVERY LIVING
PERSON, IN
TRACE
AMOUNTS.



IT IS **DANGEROUS**,
AND **POWERFUL**.
NEVER BEFORE HAS SO
MUCH BEEN HERE
ON EARTH!

IF YOU HAVE
FREED ENOUGH HUMANS
FROM THE DARK GOD'S
HOLD, AND YOU CONDUCT
THROUGH THEM, THROUGH
EVERYONE, YOU MIGHT
NOT **NEED** THE ANTENNA
TO RAISE THE EARTH!
WHAT I'M SAYING IS--



WHAT YOU'RE
SAYING IS, WE USE
THIS TENTH METAL
TO REACH OUT TO
EVERYONE **LOST** IN
THE DARK AND WE
SHOW THEM THE
WAY BACK.



WE **CONNECT**,
ALL OF US, AND
RAISE THE EARTH
TOGETHER.

WHAT YOU'RE
SAYING IS...

...FULCUM
ABOMINUS.



A
BATTLE
CRY.

"COME
TOGETHER
AS ONE."

ONE
WARRIOR,
RIGHT,
ARTHUR?

FOR
EVERYONE.

WELL
SAID, GUYS.
JUST DON'T FORM
A GIANT ROBOT
WITHOUT US,
YEAH?

Lost to
history was a
story...a story
of heroes...

NOW
THAT'S
WHAT I'M
TALKING
ABOUT!

...heroes fighting an ancient war of birds and bats.

I wrote of it many years ago.

Today I write a new story.

About another great war of birds and bats, but one that ends not with obfuscation, but discovery...

...with great heroes reaching out to those around them.

To friends...


...and strangers.

To people close to them...

...and far away.

They reached out with a message of fortitude and solidarity, but above all, of bravery. Of daring.


And in reaching out, they ignited a spark.



And it caught.

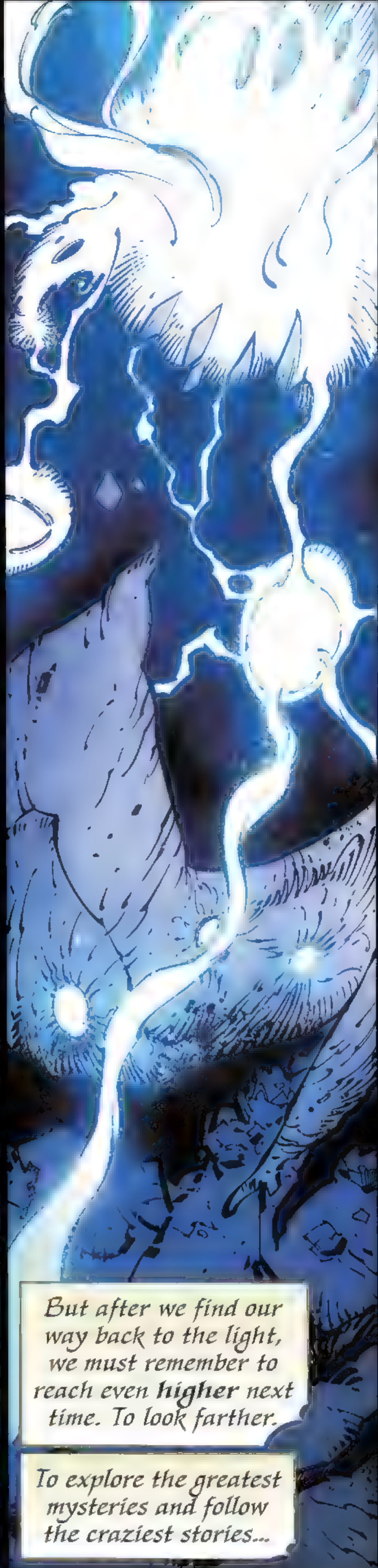
My name is Carter Hall, and I am a detective of history. But you are a detective, too. For to be human, at its core, is to question and quest.

To seek answers about who we are. Even when--or especially when--those answers are beyond our grasp.




And what I have learned is that sometimes that search leads us to the darkest places imaginable.

In those times, we need each other to find our way back home. To remember who we are.



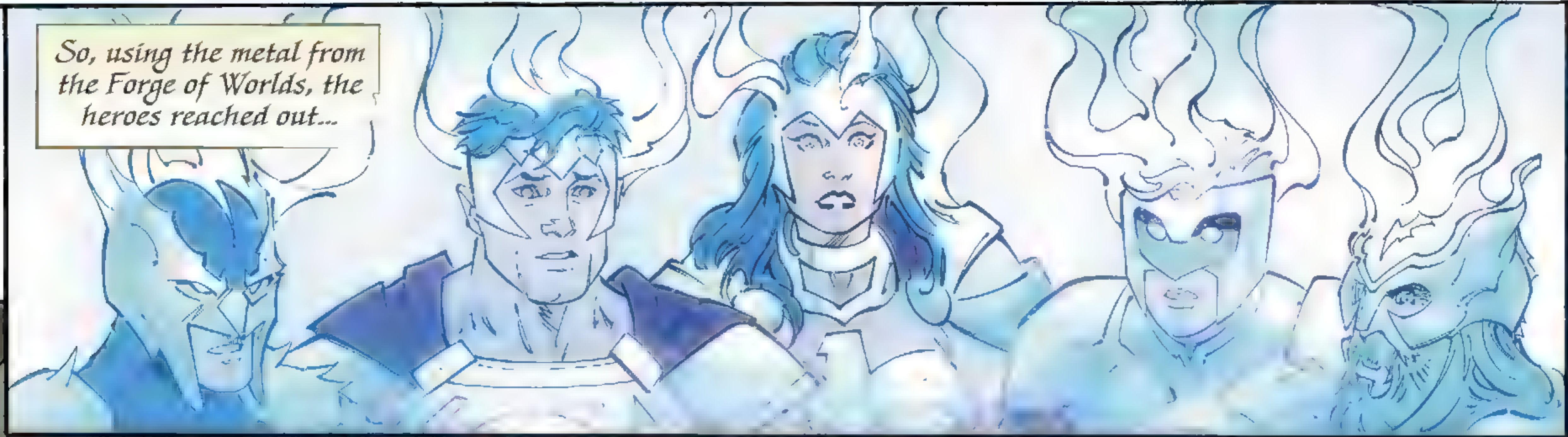
But after we find our way back to the light, we must remember to reach even higher next time. To look farther.

To explore the greatest mysteries and follow the craziest stories...



...because in the end, sometimes it's the most insane, lunatic journeys that push us past what we thought was true...

...and toward what is possible.



So, using the metal from the Forge of Worlds, the heroes reached out...

...with such power that everyone heard their call, and together, they cast the dark god out, and raised the Earth to its rightful place.

But then they went further, with all of us at their backs, to the very limit of the Multiverse.



To the Source Wall where everything ends.



And before they knew it, they'd broken through to the other side.



To where even greater mysteries lay waiting.

They did it connected to you, and to me, for Element X, the very substance of the Forge of Worlds, is in all of us.

Because in the end, we're all...

...a little metal.

EPILOGUE

PLEASE,
COME IN.

I DO
HOPE I GOT
YOUR SIZES
RIGHT...



SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK, CLARK?

YOU REALIZE WHEN LOIS SEES ME LIKE THIS, BRUCE, SHE'S GOING TO MAKE ALFRED TAILOR ALL MY SUITS.

PLEASE. CALL HER IN. MAYBE SHE CAN KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO A CERTAIN FIGHTER PILOT...

HEY, I'M WEARING THE BOW TIE, AREN'T I, DIANA? BARRY'S GOT SNEAKERS ON. BRUCE, BACK ME UP!



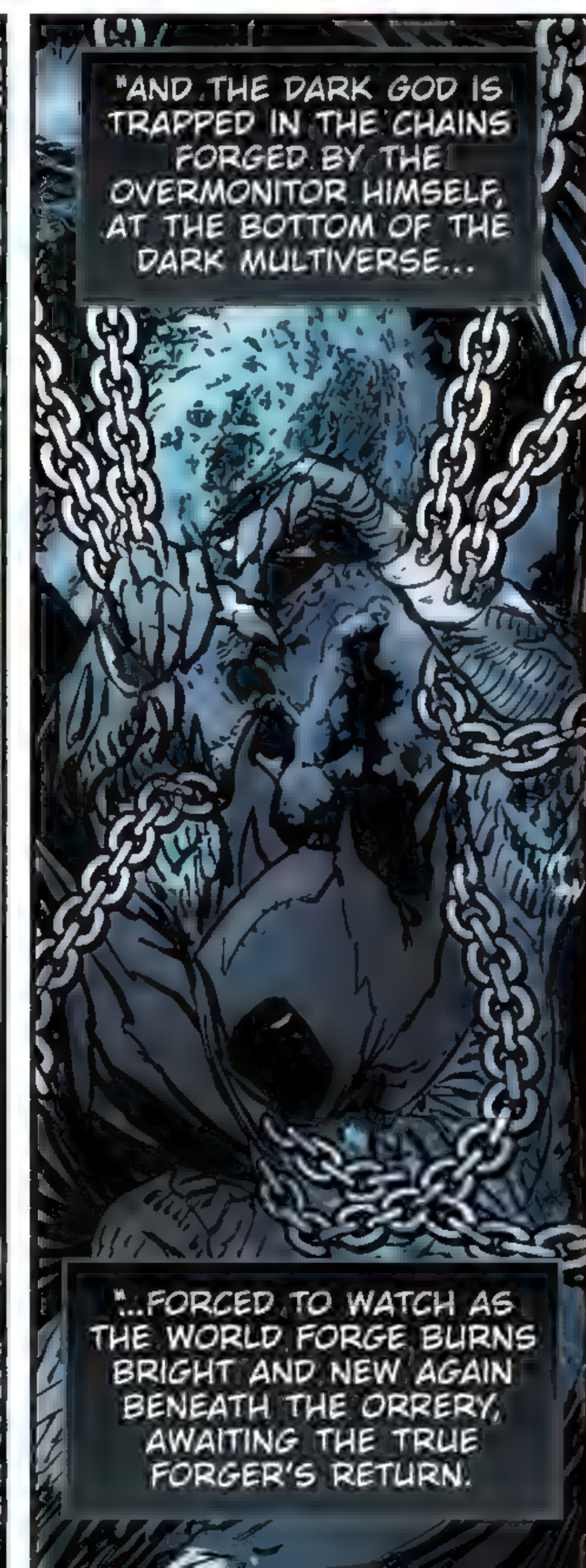
TO EACH HIS OWN, HAL.

BUT, EVERYONE...I HAVE A FEW WORDS I NEED TO SAY. ABOUT WHAT WE DID. WHAT WE OVERCAME, AND WHERE WE STAND.



"FOR THE MOST PART, OUR WORLD HAS BEEN SET RIGHT. THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY BARBATOS AND HIS 'DARK' KNIGHTS HAS BEEN REVERSED."

"BY VIRTUE OF THE TENTH METAL ARMOR WE WORE, CHALLENGERS MOUNTAIN STANDS WHERE IT BELONGS, IN THE HEART OF THE ROCKIES, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A GENERATION."



"AND THE DARK GOD IS TRAPPED IN THE CHAINS FORGED BY THE OVERMONITOR HIMSELF, AT THE BOTTOM OF THE DARK MULTIVERSE..."

"...FORCED TO WATCH AS THE WORLD FORGE BURNS BRIGHT AND NEW AGAIN BENEATH THE ORRERY, AWAITING THE TRUE FORGER'S RETURN."

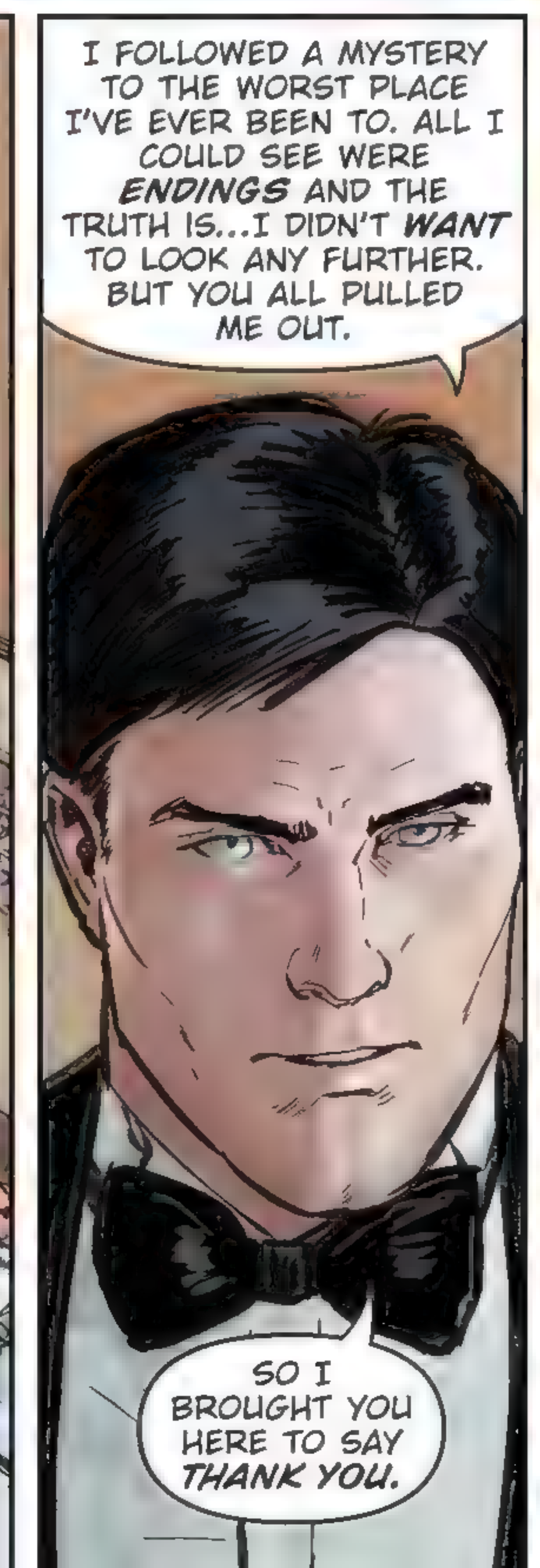


"OUR ALLIES FROM THE MULTIVERSE ARE REBUILDING THE HOUSE OF HEROES, PREPARING FOR THE NEW WORLDS THAT MAY RISE TO MEET IT."

"ALL OF CREATION IS RICH WITH NEW POSSIBILITY."



LOOKING AT YOU ALL NOW, I JUST WANTED TO SAY...I AM SO DAMN PROUD TO BE AMONG YOU.



I FOLLOWED A MYSTERY TO THE WORST PLACE I'VE EVER BEEN TO. ALL I COULD SEE WERE ENDINGS AND THE TRUTH IS...I DIDN'T WANT TO LOOK ANY FURTHER. BUT YOU ALL PULLED ME OUT.

SO I BROUGHT YOU HERE TO SAY THANK YOU.



BUT THERE'S ANOTHER REASON I BROUGHT YOU HERE TODAY. NOT TO REVEL IN OUR VICTORY, BUT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S COMING NEXT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BRUCE?



KENDRA... IT'S TIME.

SAVED THE FUN PART FOR ME, HUH?

YEAH. OKAY.

"RIGHT NOW, ON BLACKHAWK ISLAND, CARTER HALL IS RESTING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS. EXPOSURE TO THE DARKENED WORLD FORGE TOOK ITS TOLL, BUT HE'S GOING TO MAKE IT."

"HAWKMAN
WILL FLY AGAIN."

"BUT BEFORE HE FELL UNCONSCIOUS, HE TOOK HIS JOURNAL, AND HE STARTED TO WRITE WITH AN INTENSITY THAT SCARED ME. HIS FIRST ENTRIES RECORDED OUR BATTLE WITH BARBATOS, BUT HE HAD *SEEN* THINGS IN THE FORGE."

"THEY WERE FLEETING IMAGES, BUT HE NEEDED TO GET THEM DOWN BEFORE HE LOST THEM. NOT IMAGES FROM THE PAST, BUT FROM THE PRESENT."

"THE RUPTURE OF THE BARRIER BETWEEN REALMS OF THE MULTIVERSE HAS UNLEASHED NEW ENERGIES, REVEALED NEW BEINGS...AND NEW BATTLES."

TELL US,
IMMORTAL MAN...
WHAT DOES IT
MEAN?

THIS IS
THE DAWN OF A
NEW AGE OF
HEROES...

IF THEY CAN
SURVIVE WHAT'S
COMING FOR
THEM.

"EVEN THE
DREAMING
HAS BEEN
DISRUPTED."

MY LORD?
DANIEL, ARE
YOU THERE?

THE
LIBRARY HAS
STOPPED BURNING.
THE CRISIS
SEEMS TO HAVE
ABATED...

WHAT'S
THIS...?

NO,
THAT'S NOT
POSSIBLE.

A BOOK IS
MISSING...JUST
ONE...?

DREAM?
DREAM,
WHERE ARE
YOU?!

"BUT EVEN MORE THAN THIS...THERE ARE IMAGES FROM THE *FUTURE*."

"AS WE KNOW, THE METAL WE USED TO DEFEAT BARBATOS HAD THE POWER TO CREATE AND DESTROY MATTER BASED ON ITS WIELDERS' DESIRES."

"WE DIDN'T REWIND THE UNIVERSE TO WHAT IT WAS BEFORE BARBATOS ATTACKED. WE *REBUILT* IT. AND IN DOING SO, WE MAY HAVE ALSO... CREATED *NEW* THINGS...FORGED FROM OUR OWN SUBLIMATED DESIRES..."

"JOTTED WORDS BY NAMES, LIKE... *LANTERN*..."

"...*DARKSTARS*."

"WHAT THINGS?"

"ALL WE HAVE ARE NOTES..."

"WONDER WOMAN..."

"...*DARK PANTHEON*."

"AQUAMAN..."

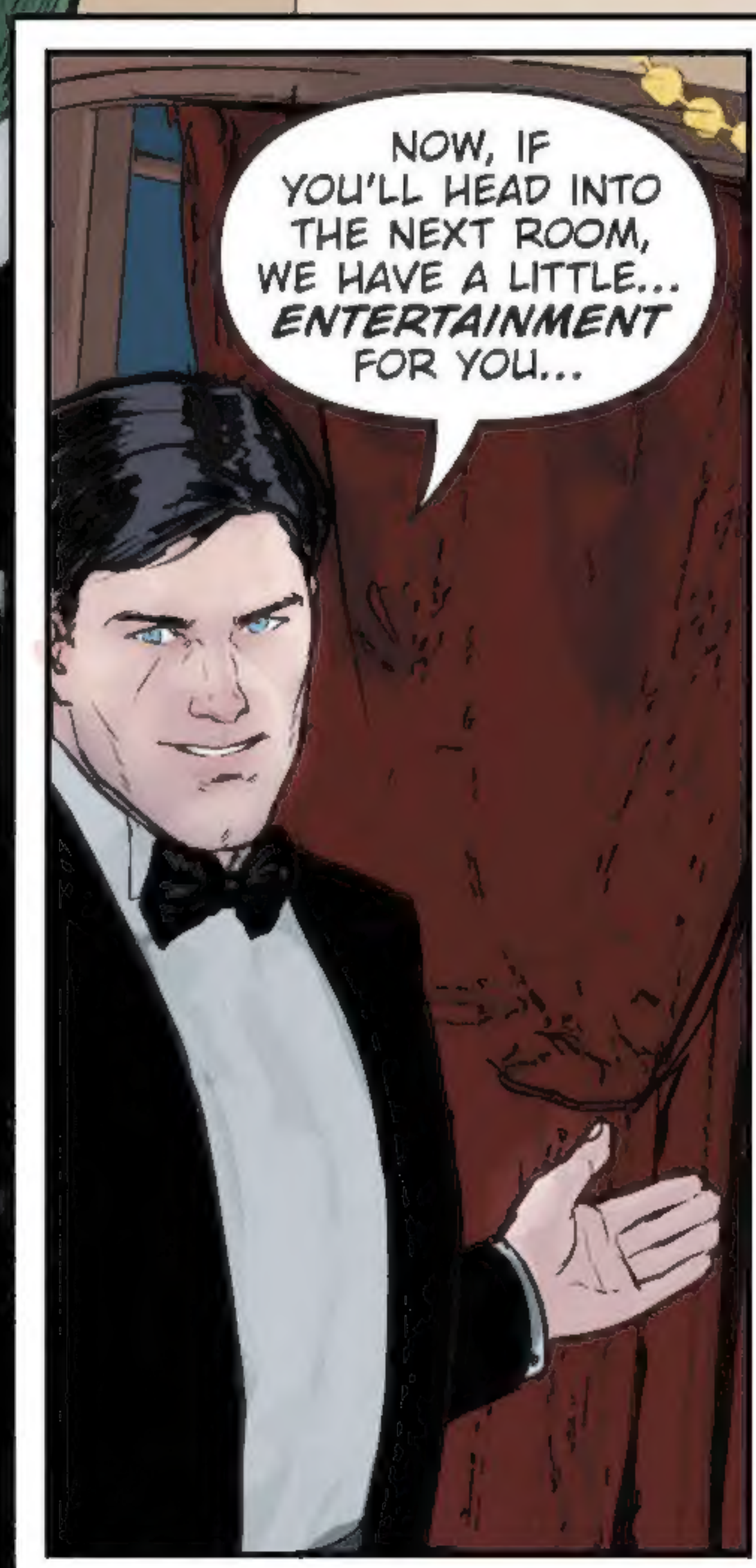
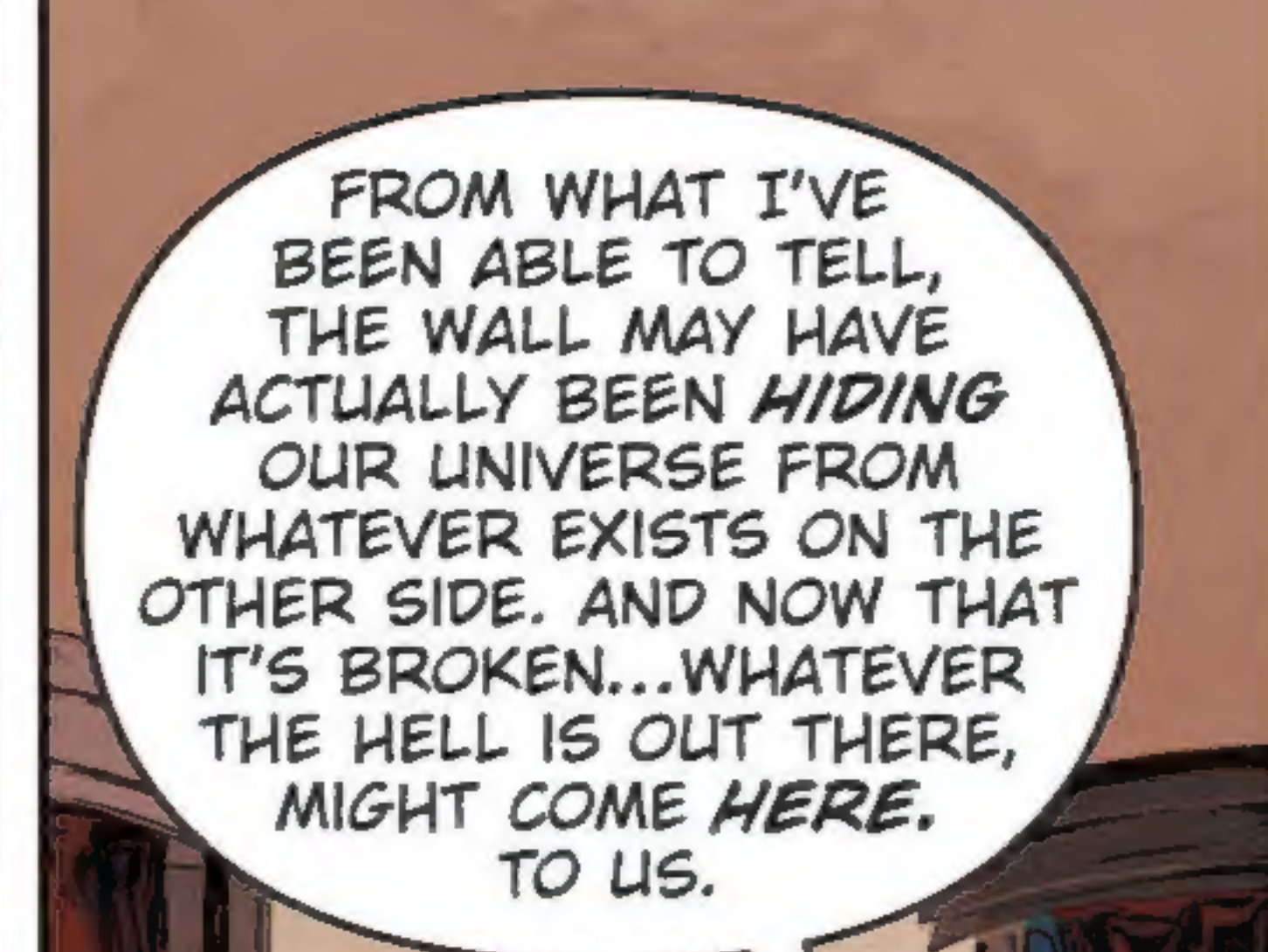
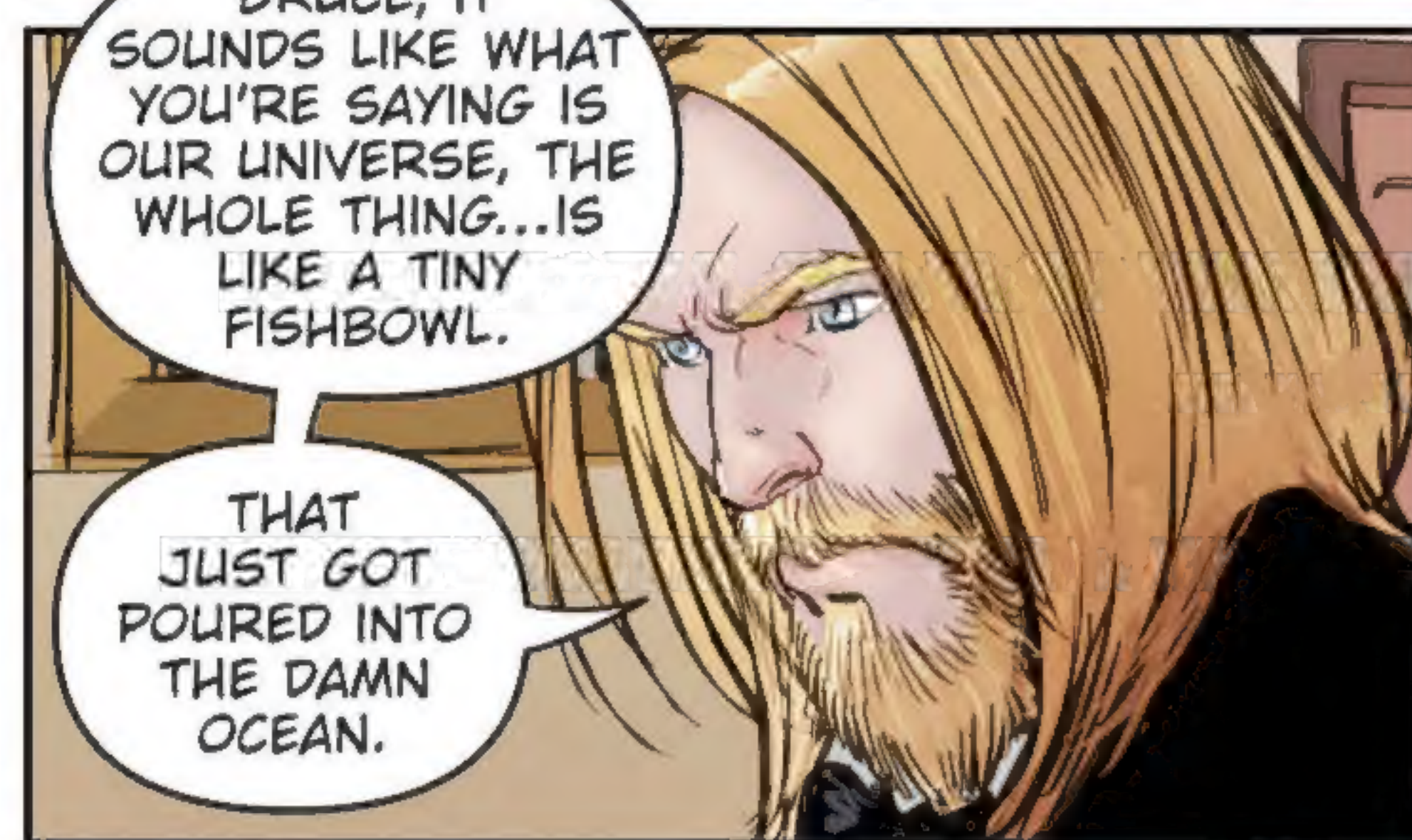
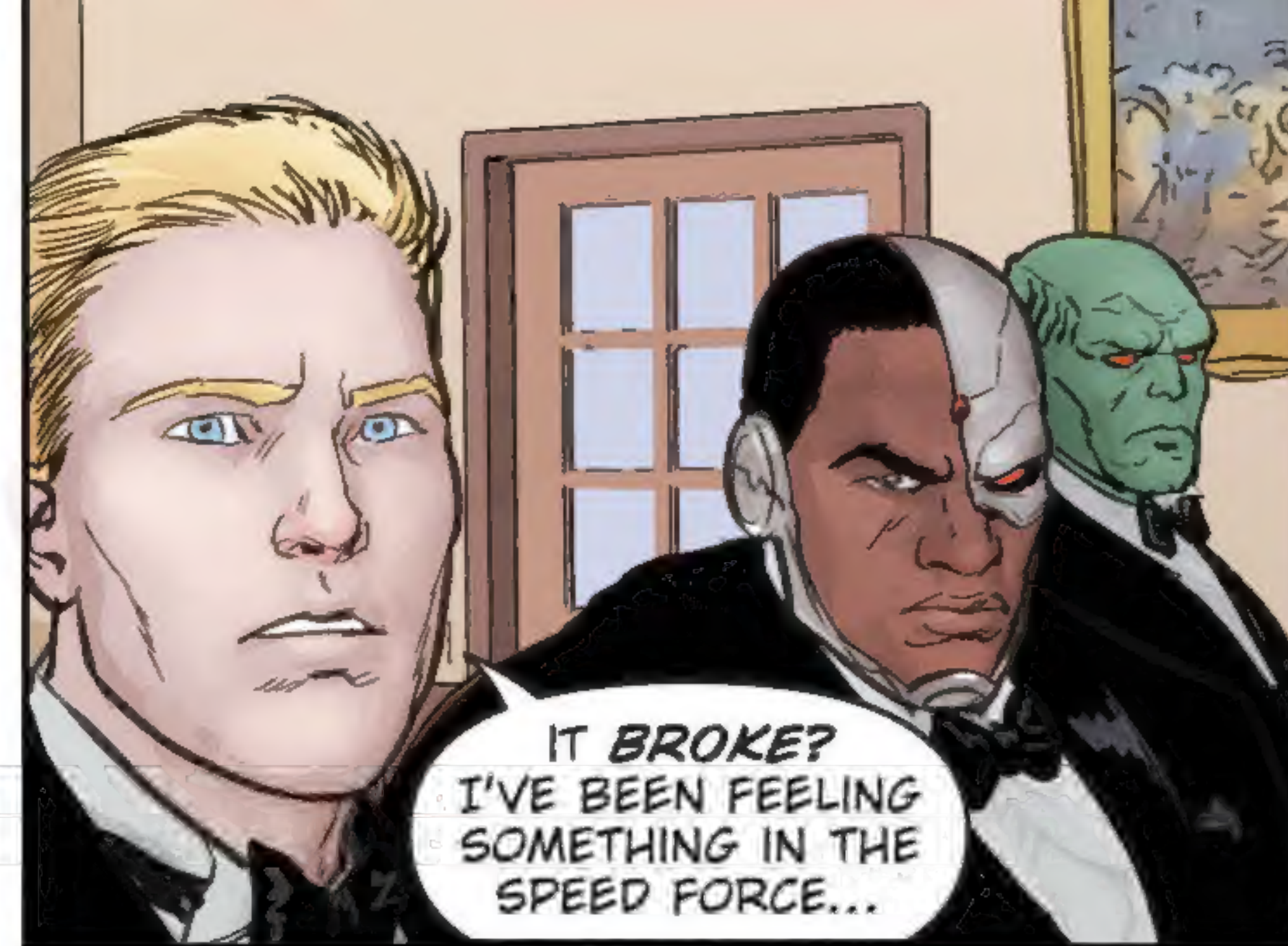
"...ATLANTIS..."

"...*RISEN*."

"NOW IF THIS IS TRUE, IF WE JUST BROUGHT SOME DARK DESIRES TO LIFE, THESE CHANGES, THEY'RE LIKELY TO HAVE CONSEQUENCES..."

"WHAT WILL YOUR LOVED ONES DO WHEN THEY REALIZE WHAT WE JUST ADDED TO REALITY? WILL THEY WAGE *WAR*?"

"AND WHAT ABOUT THE LONG-DORMANT FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE, STIRRED AWAKE? WHAT HAPPENS WHEN *THEY* COME FOR US? IF THEY DECIDE THERE'S BEEN NO *JUSTICE* FOR OUR ACTIONS?"





*REMEMBER, KIDS, WHAT
HAPPENS AT A BATMAN
PARTY, STAYS AT A
BATMAN PARTY.
-TAY & DAVE



THAT WAS
NICE. WHAT
YOU SAID.

I MEANT IT. I
WOULDN'T BE HERE IF
NOT FOR THE TWO OF
YOU. THANK YOU.
TRULY.



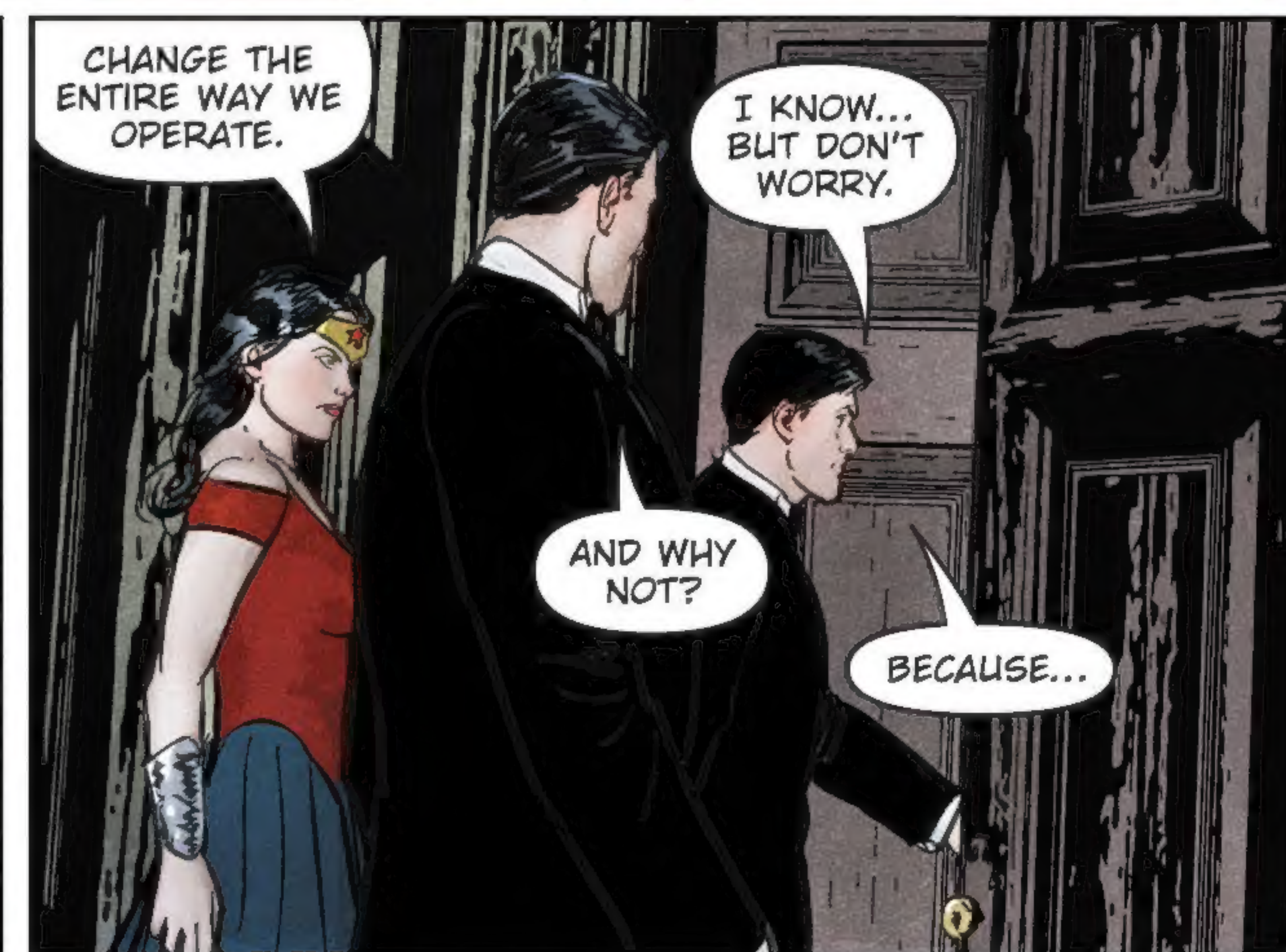
BUT YOU DIDN'T TELL THEM...THE FATES
CAME TO ME, THE VISION THEY
SHOWED, IF IT'S TRUE...

I KNOW.



GOD, WHAT WE'RE
ABOUT TO FACE. OUR
UNIVERSE JUST GOT SO
MUCH BIGGER.

WE'RE
GOING TO
HAVE TO
RETHINK
EVERY-
THING.



CHANGE THE
ENTIRE WAY WE
OPERATE.

AND WHY
NOT?

I KNOW...
BUT DON'T
WORRY.

BECAUSE...

...I
HAVE A
PLAN.

HALL OF JUSTICE

End

The adventures of the Justice League continue in
JUSTICE LEAGUE: NO JUSTICE #1 in-store May!